




# Individual-specific networks

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06/12/2022

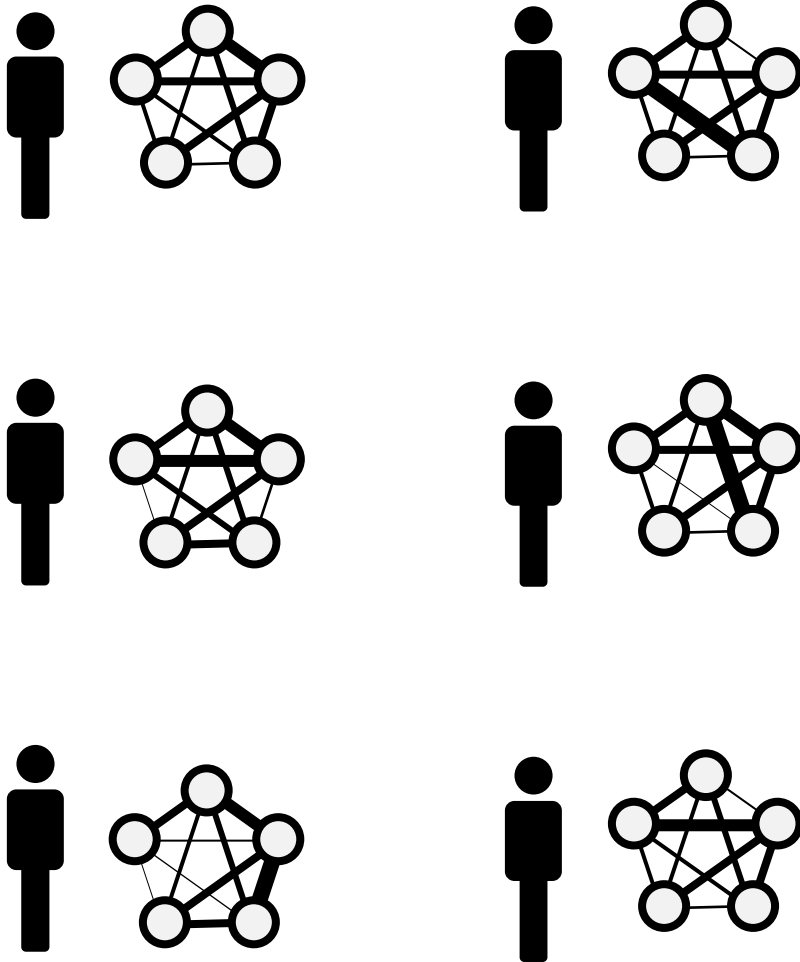


# AGENDA

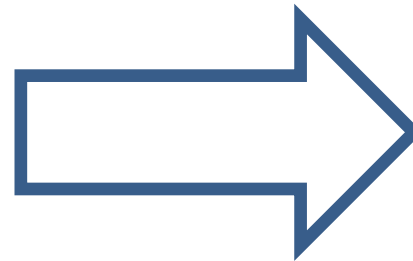
1.  Introduction to Personalized medicine
2.  Rationale: networks and networks' attributes
3.  Individual-specific networks
4.  Most interesting approaches
5.  Comparison
6.  Direction and future applications
7.  Conclusion



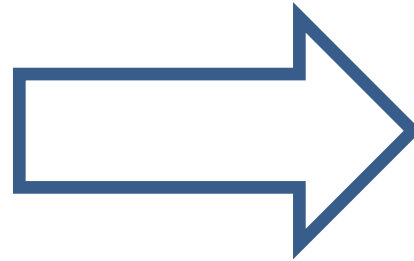
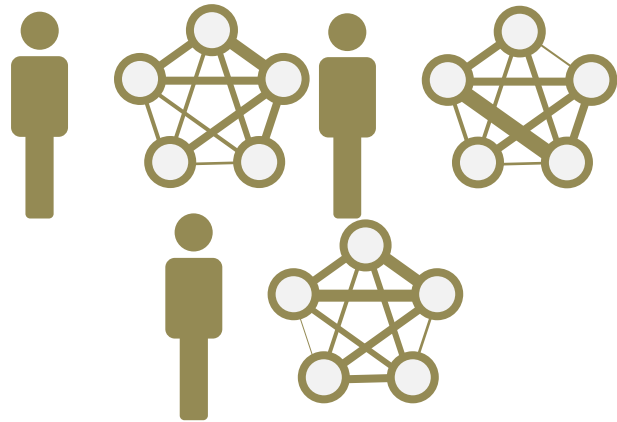
# SITUATION



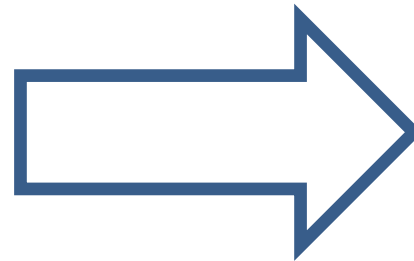
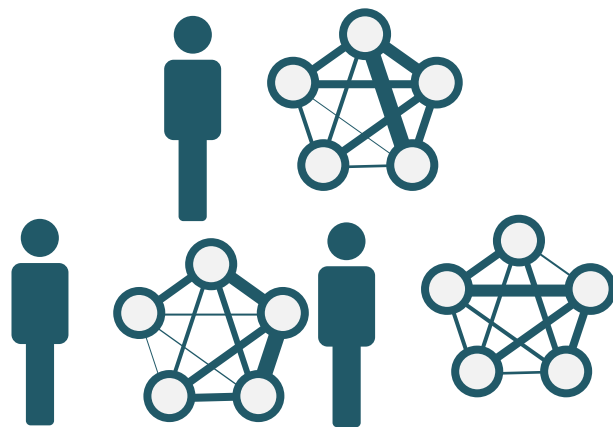
Approach: one  
size fits all!



# PERSONALIZED MEDICINE



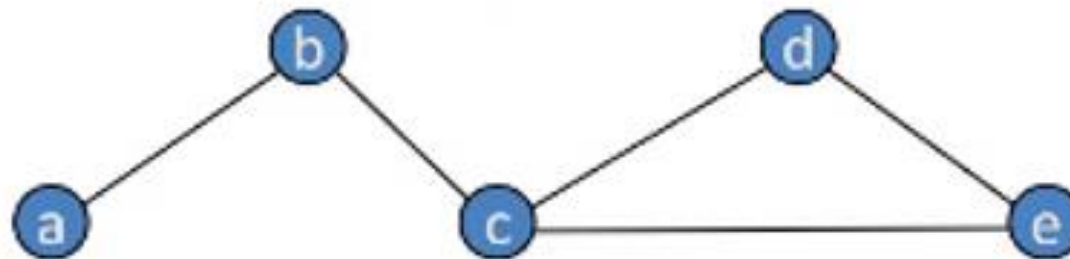
**Personalized  
medicine**



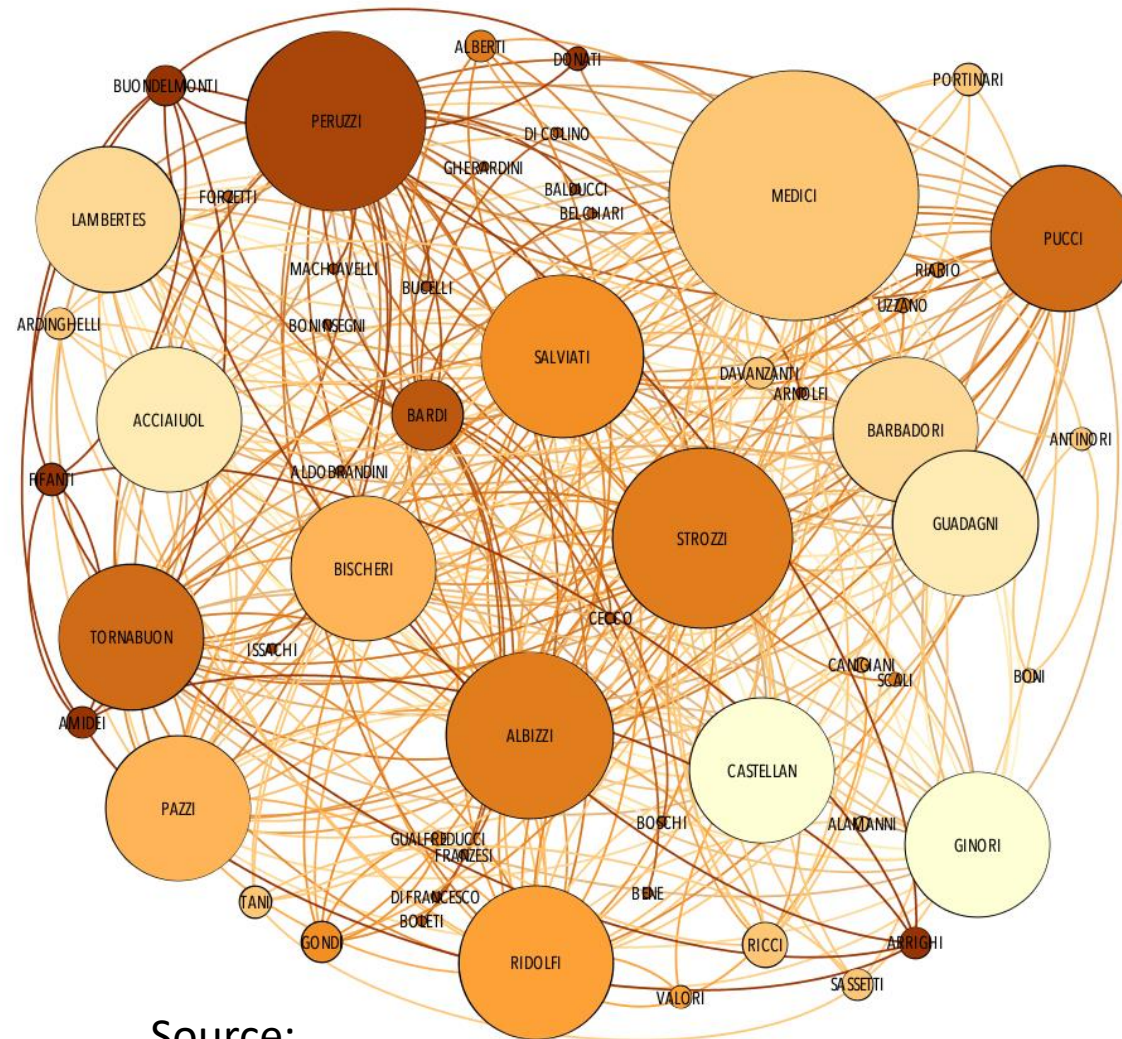


## NETWORK DEFINITION

- **Vertices**  $V$  : Entities of the same type (i.e. genes, proteins, SNPs) = nodes, vertices, points
- **Edges**  $E$ : connections between two nodes (association, correlation) = arcs, lines, ties
- **Graph**: a set  $G = (V, E)$  of vertices and edges.  $V$  is a finite, non-empty set of  $p$  nodes and  $E$  is a subset of  $V \times V$  containing pairs of connected nodes  $e_{ij} := (v_i, v_j)$
- **Module** (=subnetwork)  $G'$  : limited and strongly associated sets of nodes and relative edges, A module  $G' = (V', E')$  is a network such that  $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$ .



# NETWORK VISUALIZATION



Source:

<https://studentwork.prattsi.org/infovis/labs/visualizing-florentine-family-networks/>

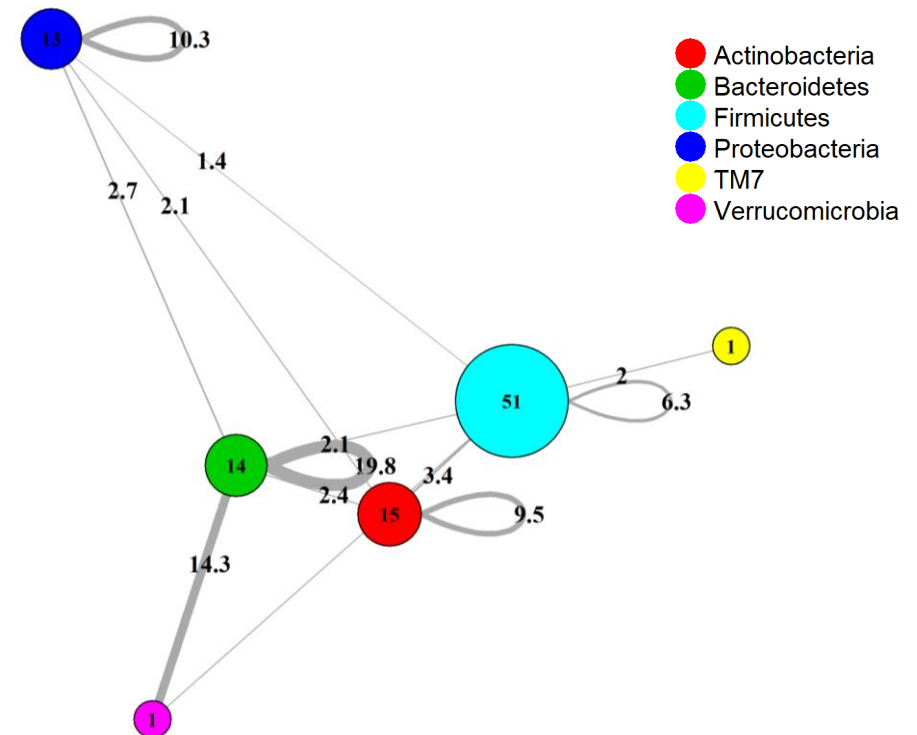
# NETWORK DESCRIPTORS

Network  
theory



A network can be:

- **Weighted** or Unweighted



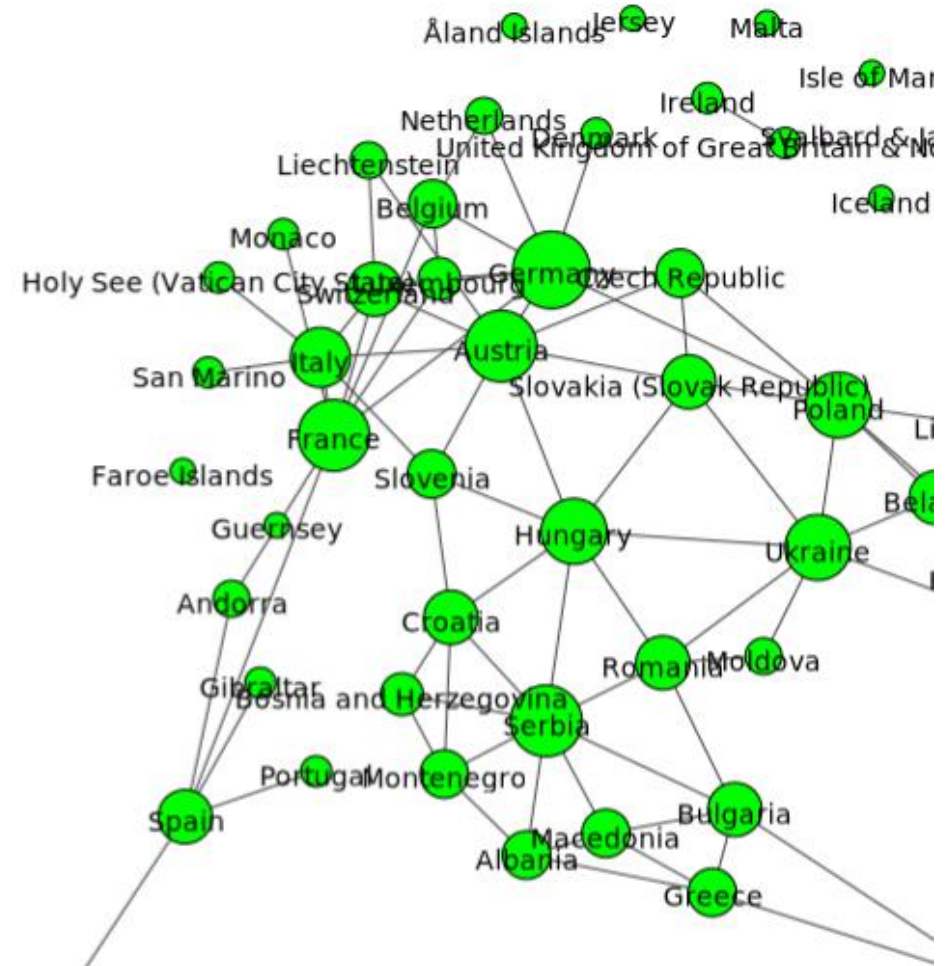
# NETWORK DESCRIPTORS

Network  
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- Weighted or **Unweighted**



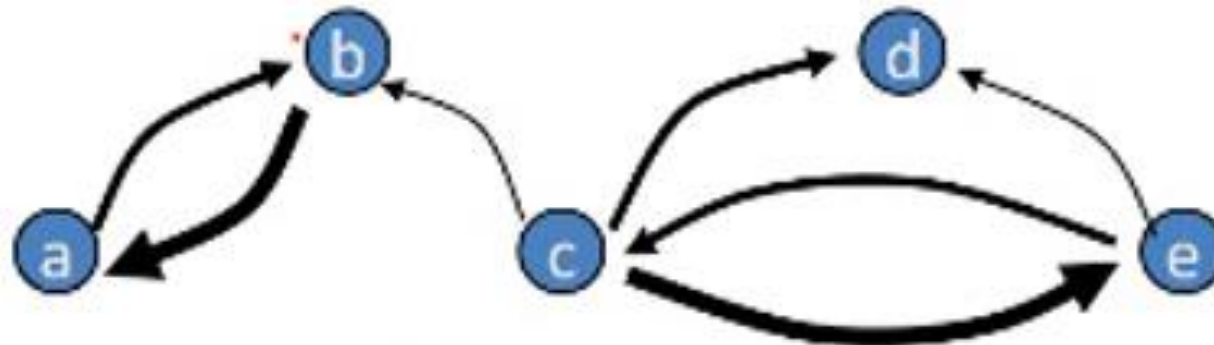
Source: <https://i.redd.it/7y5s15gs0cw61.png>



# NETWORK DESCRIPTORS



- **Directed** or Undirected. In directed graphs (digraph), each edge has a direction such that  $e_{ij} \neq e_{ji}$

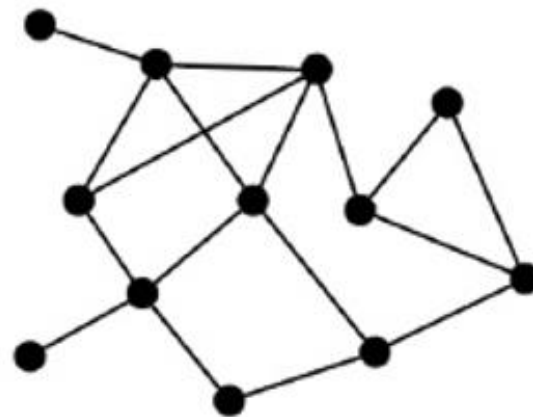


# NETWORK PROPERTIES

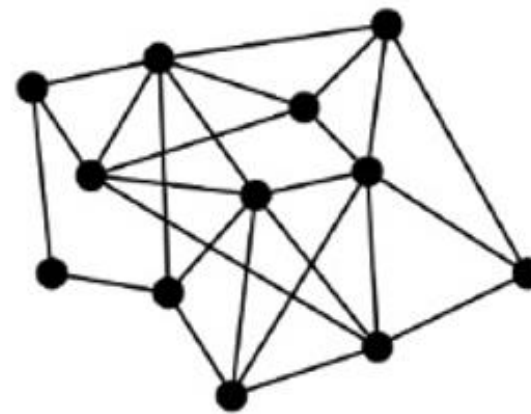


## Graphs statistics

- **Density:** number of edges in the number / number of possible edges
- Dense vs sparse



low density: 25%



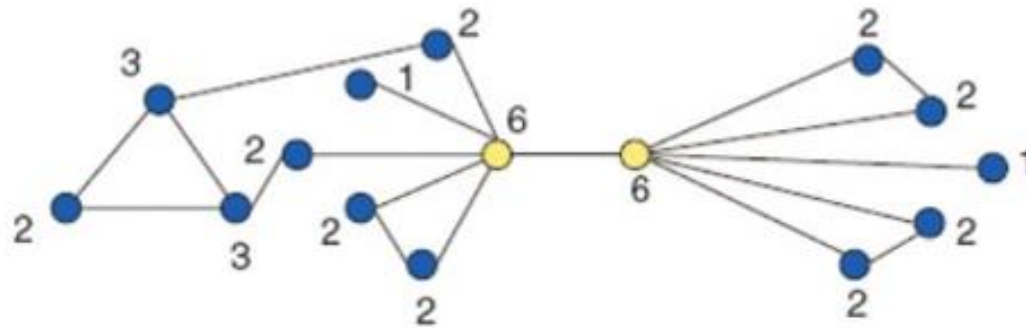
high density: 39%

# NETWORK PROPERTIES



## Graphs statistics

- **Degree:** avg number of edges for each node

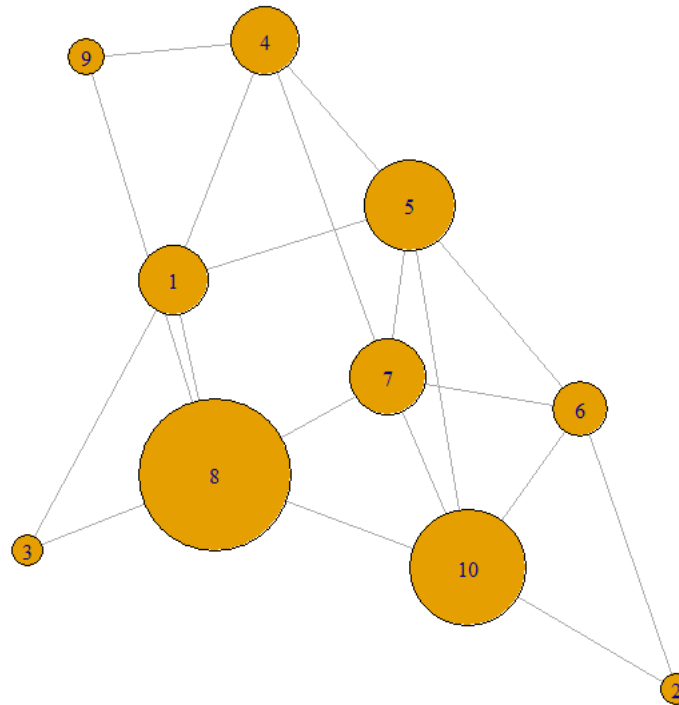


# NETWORK PROPERTIES



## Graphs statistics

- **Betweenness:** number of shortest paths going through a vertex



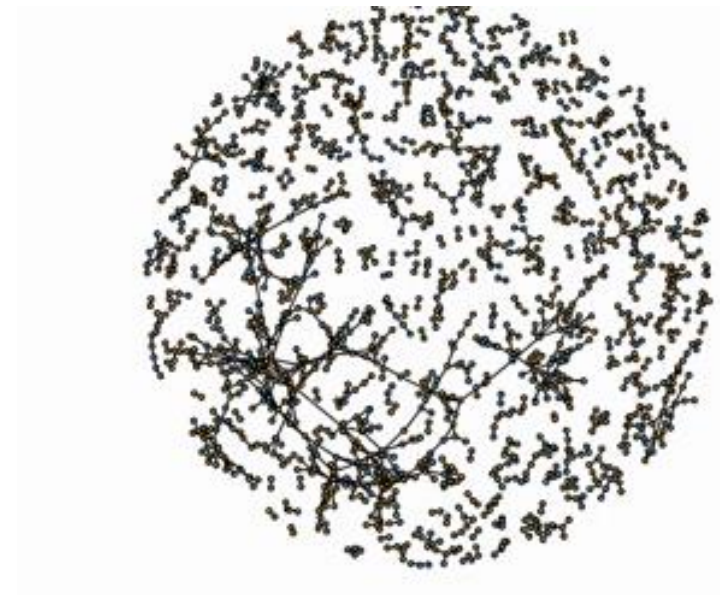
And many more. Ref: <https://igraph.org/>



# INDIVIDUAL-SPECIFIC NETWORK

Individual-specific networks (ISNs) are networks in which either *nodes* or *edges* are individual-specific. ISNs can refer to the following types of networks:

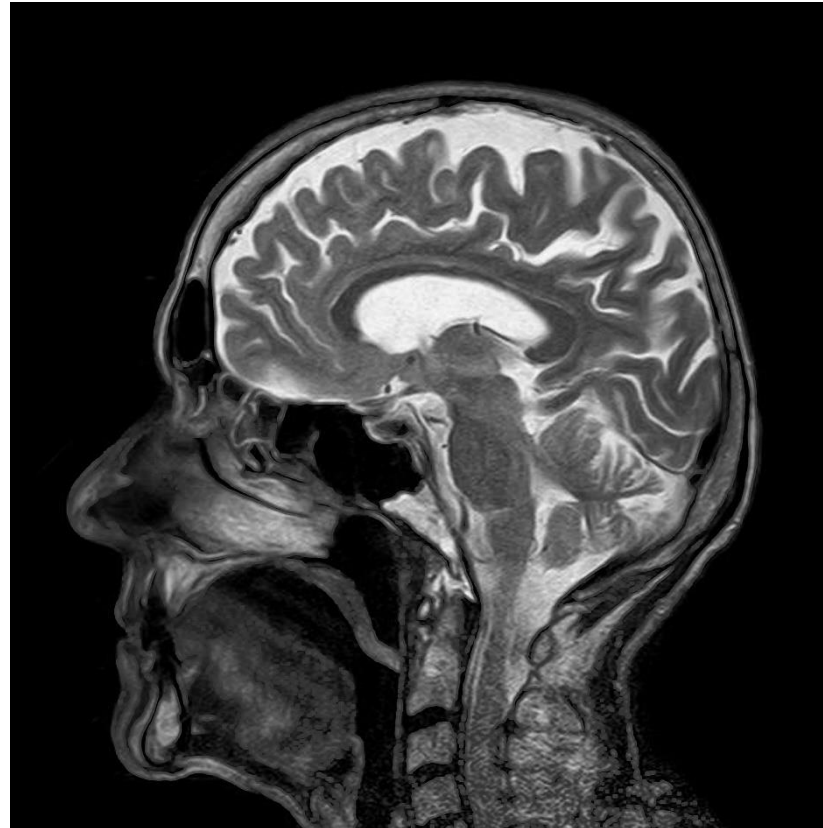
- Weighted or Unweighted
- Directed or Undirected
- Built on multiple measurement or single measurement



# INDIVIDUAL-SPECIFIC NETWORK



- Built on **multiple** measurement or single measurement



- We focus on **single** measurement



# INDIVIDUAL-SPECIFIC NETWORKS (1/2)

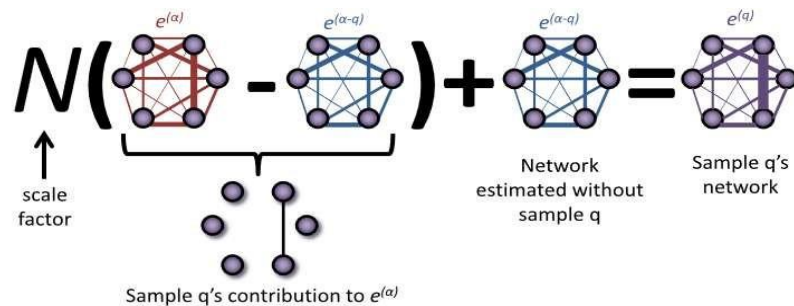
## 1 What?

- Networks that refer to co-occurrence, association, interaction
- In the literature:
  - Usually based on multiple measurements for the same individual (e.g. neurosciences)
  - Individual-specific nodes on a fixed edge template common to all individuals (e.g., protein-protein interaction network, inferred gene regulatory network)
- Recently:
  - **Individual-specific edges** (individual-specific node information available or not)



## INDIVIDUAL-SPECIFIC NETWORKS (2/2)

### 2 How?



doi: 10.1016/j.isci.2019.03.021  
(Kuijjer et al. 2019)

### 3 Why?

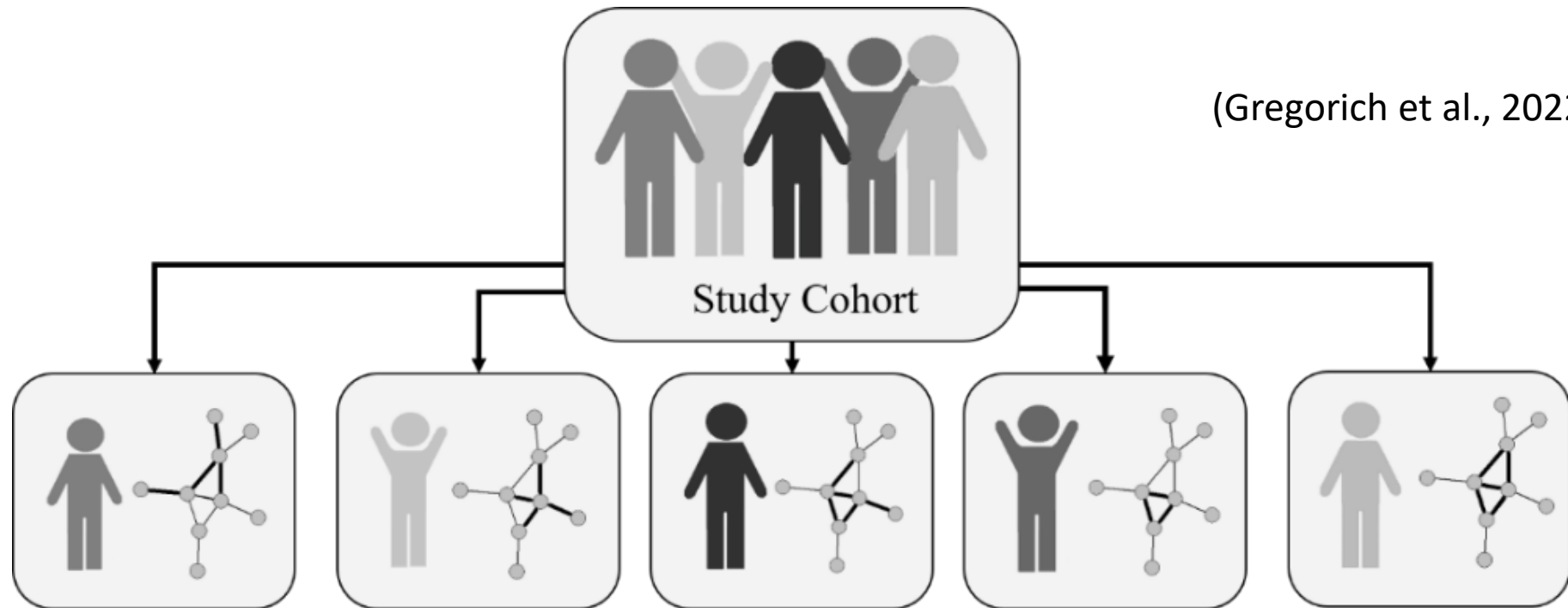
- Networks derived from a collection of individuals can be seen as models for an “average” individual
- Translating network interpretation strategies from pop. to indiv. assumes extrapolations can be made to the level of the individual
- Individual-specific networks allow focusing on each individual and its specific dynamics and associations.





# ISN SUMMARY

(Gregorich et al., 2022)



For **individual-specific networks**, we assume that for each individual  $s$  ( $s = 1, \dots, N$ ) a unique network  $G_s = (V_s, E_s)$  exists, where  $N$  is the number of individuals within the study cohort.



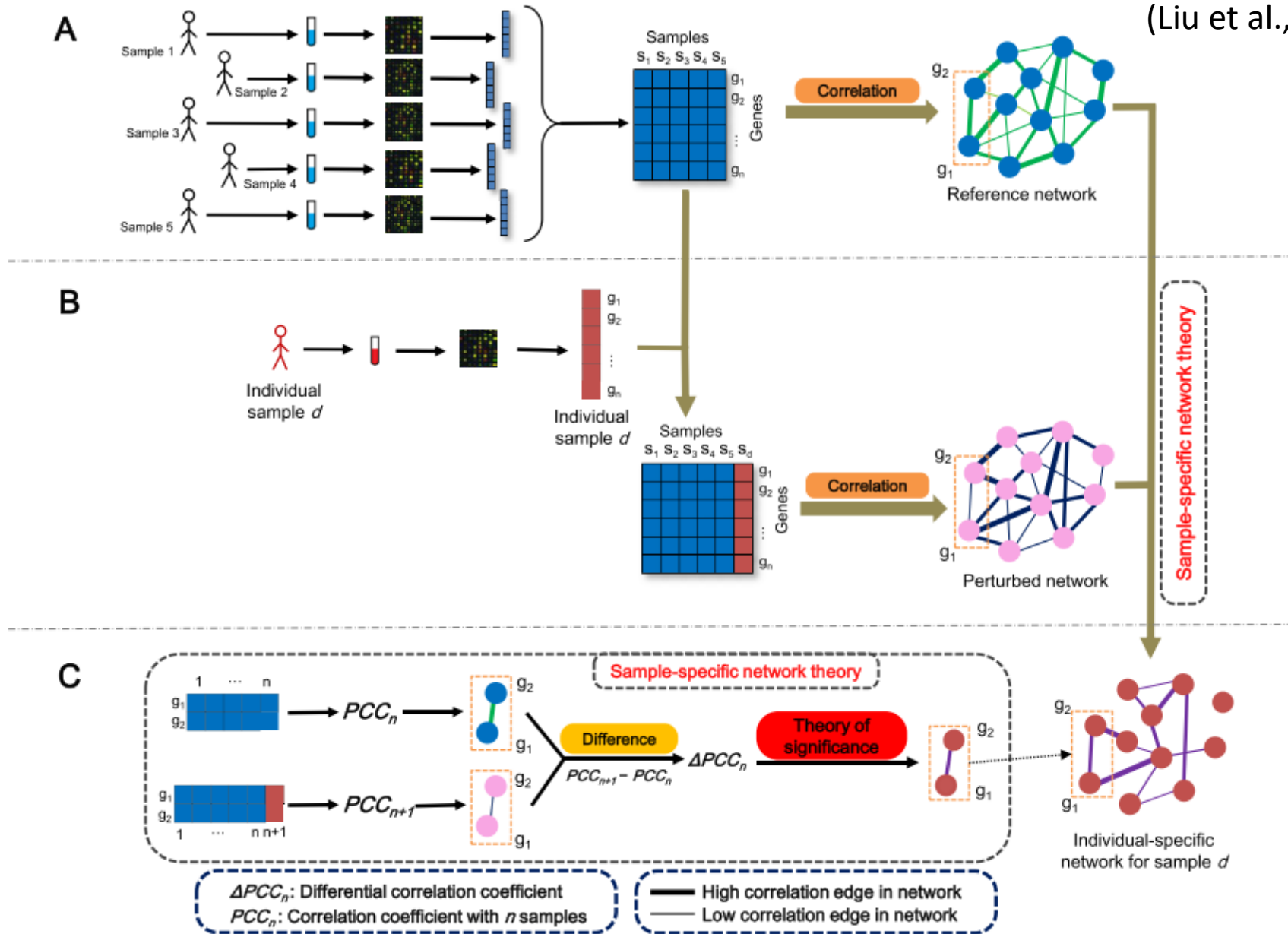
In this presentation we cover ISNs built on a **single sample** per-individual where the individual-specificity is on the edges!

# Sample-specific networks SSN (1/4): pipeline

Individual network



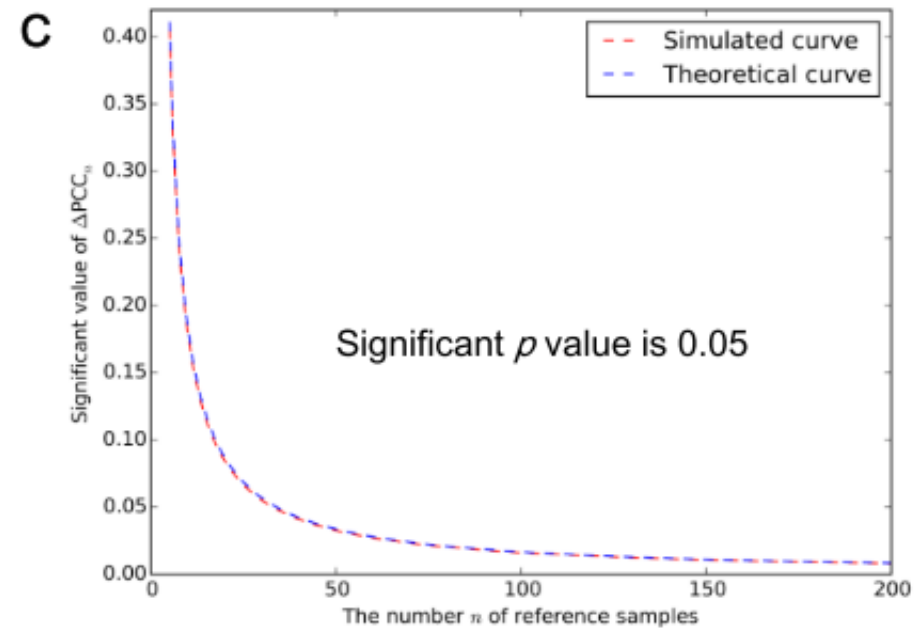
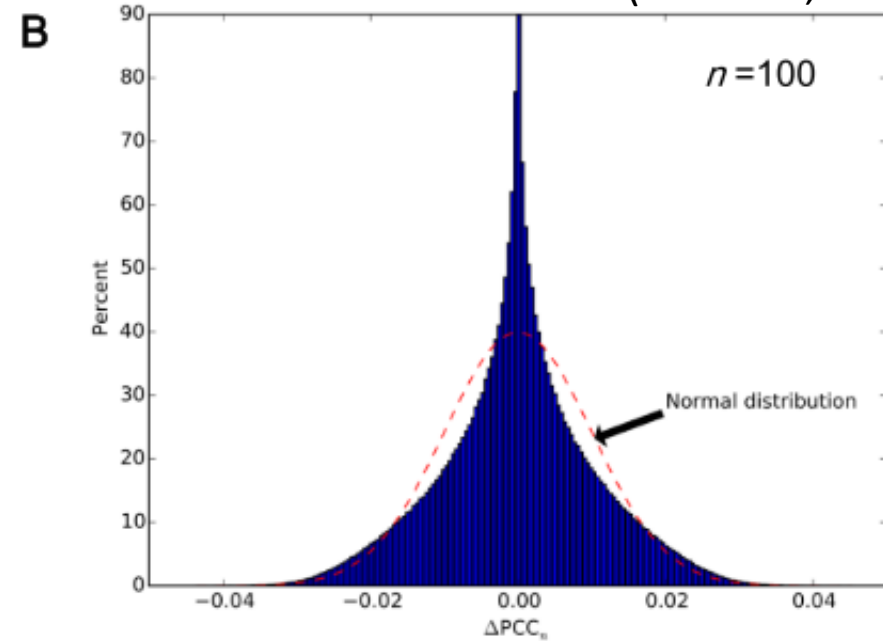
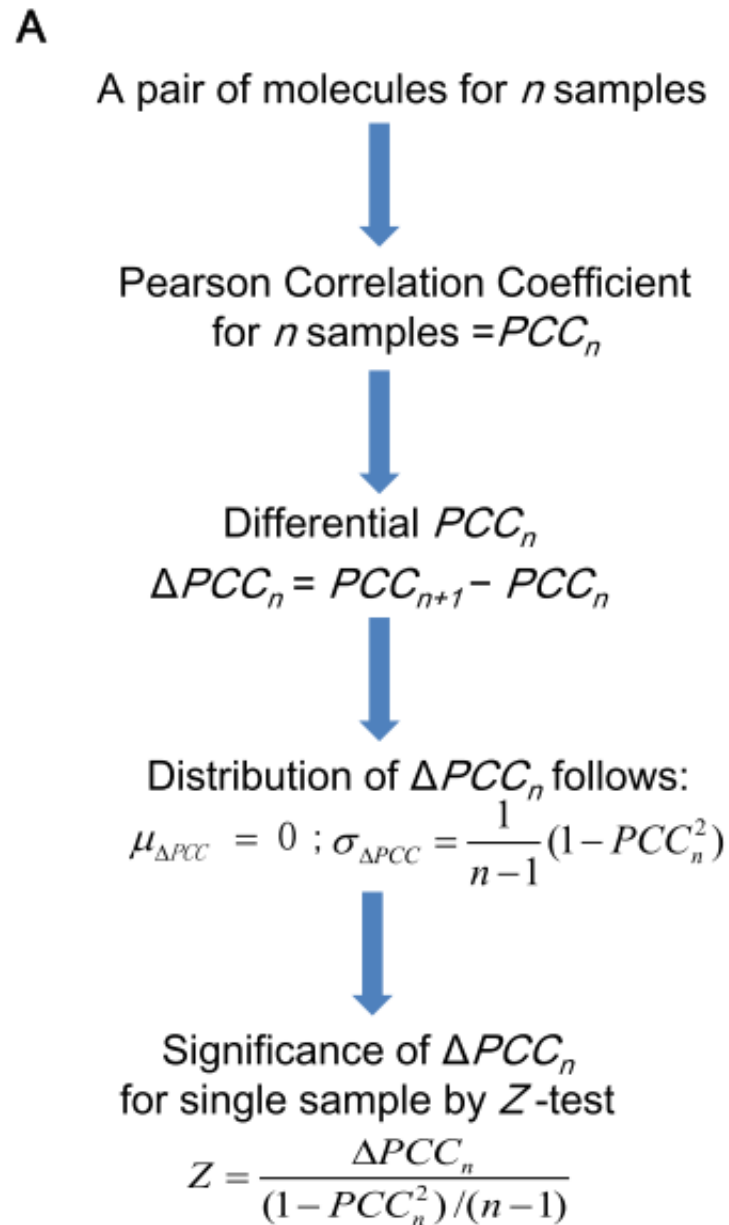
(Liu et al., 2016)





# Sample-specific networks SSN (2/4): significance

(Liu et al., 2016)





## Sample-specific networks SSN (3/4): comments

(Liu et al., 2016)

### 1 How

- Based on a reference network: control samples
- Gives a measure of significance (p-value for the edges)
- Test statistic:  $Z = \frac{\Delta PCC_n}{(1 - PCC_n^2)/(n-1)}$
- Build a **perturbed** network  $\Delta PCC_n$  = difference in correlation adding a case sample: only calculated perturbation

### 2 Caveats

- Perturbation is reductive: different interpretation than the full network.
- Widely applied in many fields ( microbiome, transcriptomics, single-cells..)
- Influential paper that inspired further publications.

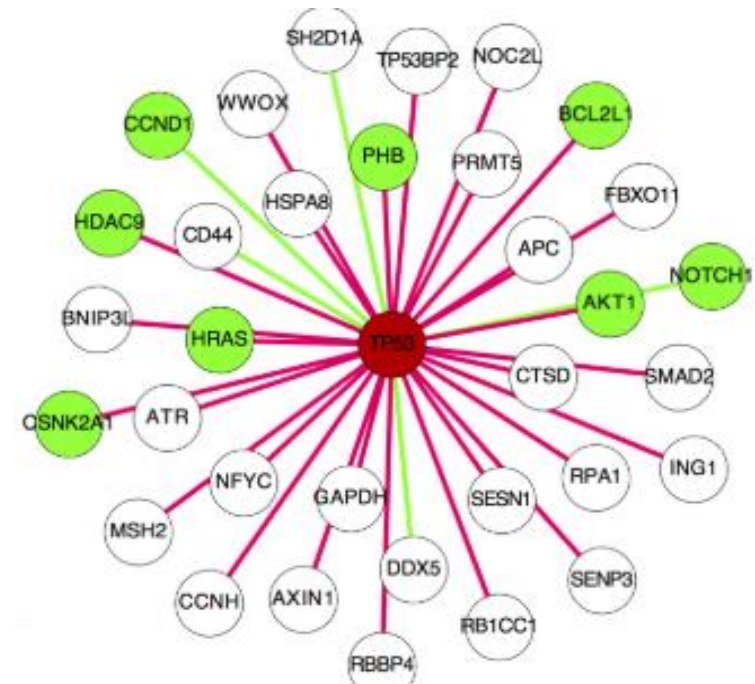


## Sample-specific networks SSN (4/4): results

### Interpretation

- Individual-specific subnetwork of TP53 (cancer marker) in sample 2574
- Reveal personalized features of **each** sample
- Each cancer type has a specific regulatory pattern
- Initially developed for Pearson correlation – but extendable for every kind of association measure

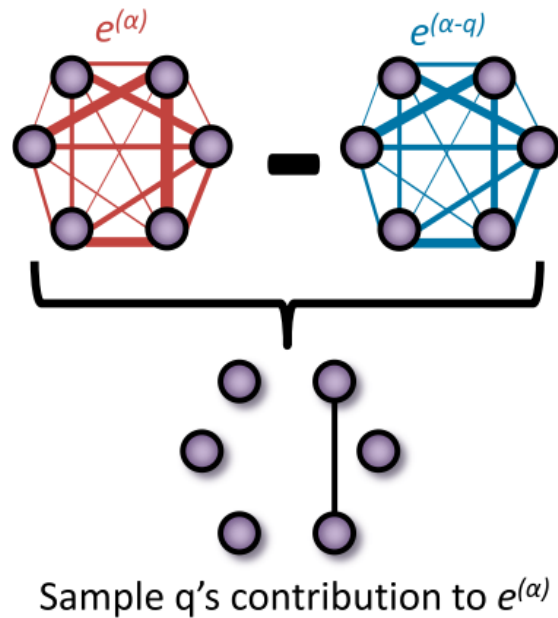
(Liu et al., 2016)





# LIONESS FORMULA (1/3)

(Kuijjer et al., 2019)



- Observation influence

## Article

### Estimating Sample-Specific Regulatory Networks

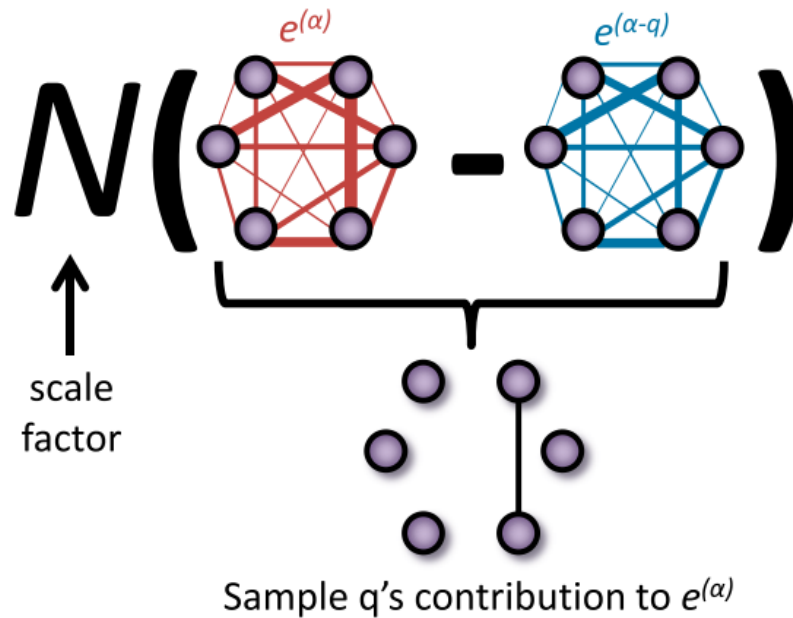
Marieke Lydia Kuijjer,<sup>1,7</sup> Matthew George Tung,<sup>2,7</sup> GuoCheng Yuan,<sup>3,4</sup> John Quackenbush,<sup>3,5,6</sup>  
and Kimberly Glass<sup>5,6,8,\*</sup>

# LIONESS FORMULA (2/3)

Individual network



(Kuijjer et al., 2019)



- Observation influence
- Scale factor

## Article

### Estimating Sample-Specific Regulatory Networks

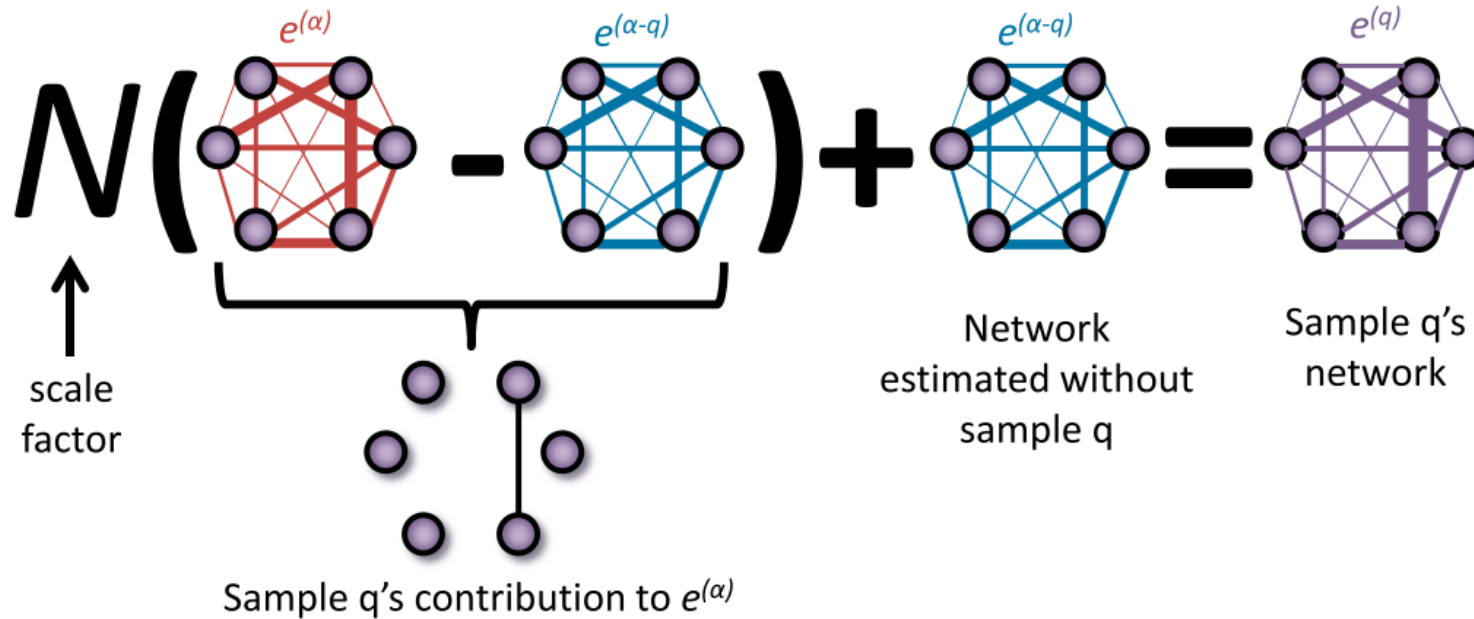
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# LIONESS FORMULA (3/3)

(Kuijjer et al., 2019)



- Observation influence
- Scale factor
- Base network
- N is the number of samples

### Article

## Estimating Sample-Specific Regulatory Networks

Marieke Lydia Kuijjer,<sup>1,7</sup> Matthew George Tung,<sup>2,7</sup> GuoCheng Yuan,<sup>3,4</sup> John Quackenbush,<sup>3,5,6</sup> and Kimberly Glass<sup>5,6,8,\*</sup>



## LIONESS - ISNs Comments:

(Kuijjer et al., 2019)

### 1 How

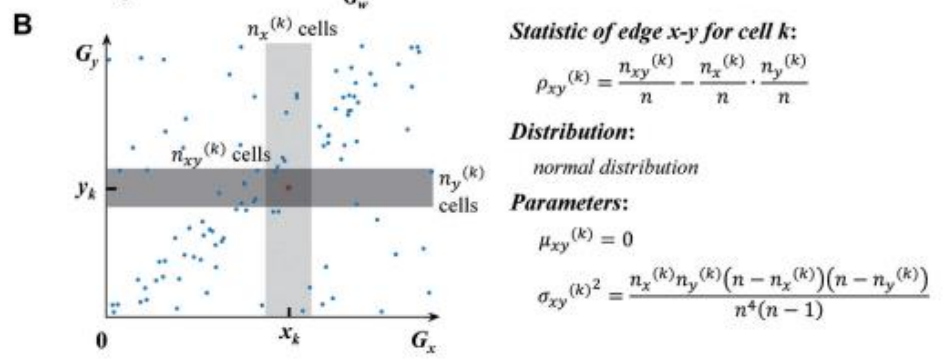
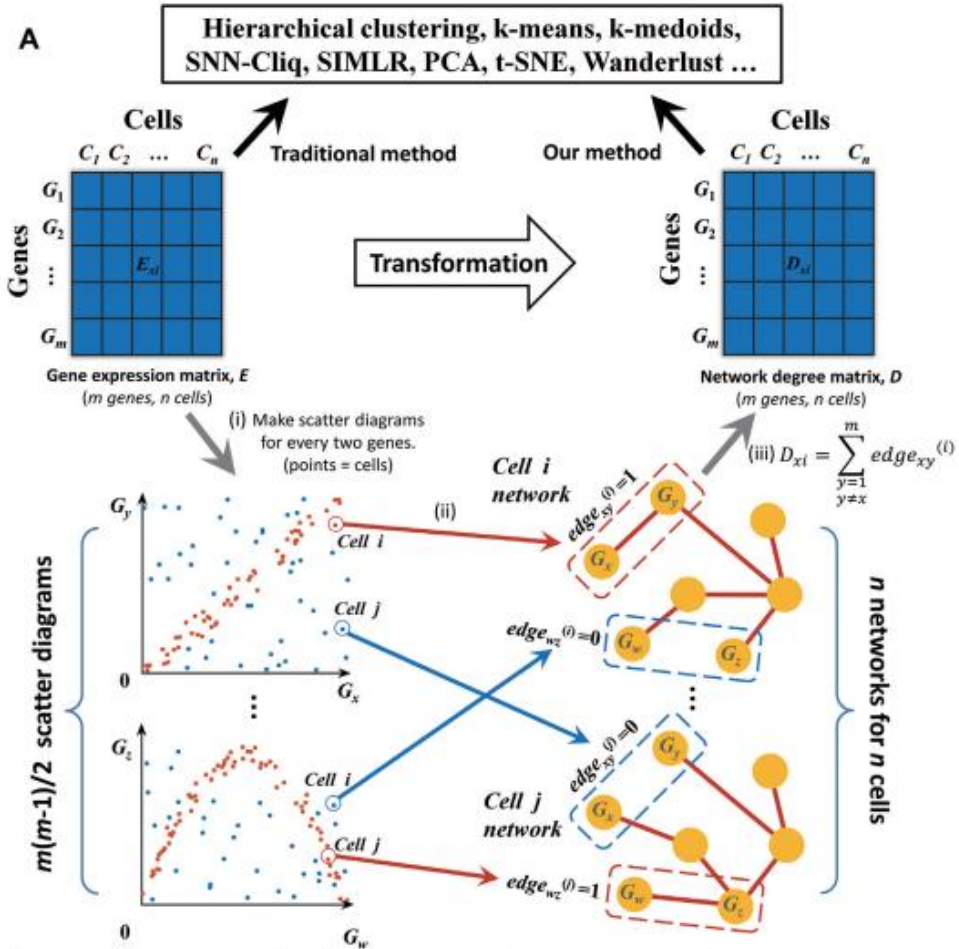
- No need for reference network: opposite approach than SSN: removal of a sample
- No test statistic for significance:
- Build a **completed** network: same interpretation as the global network

### 2 Caveats

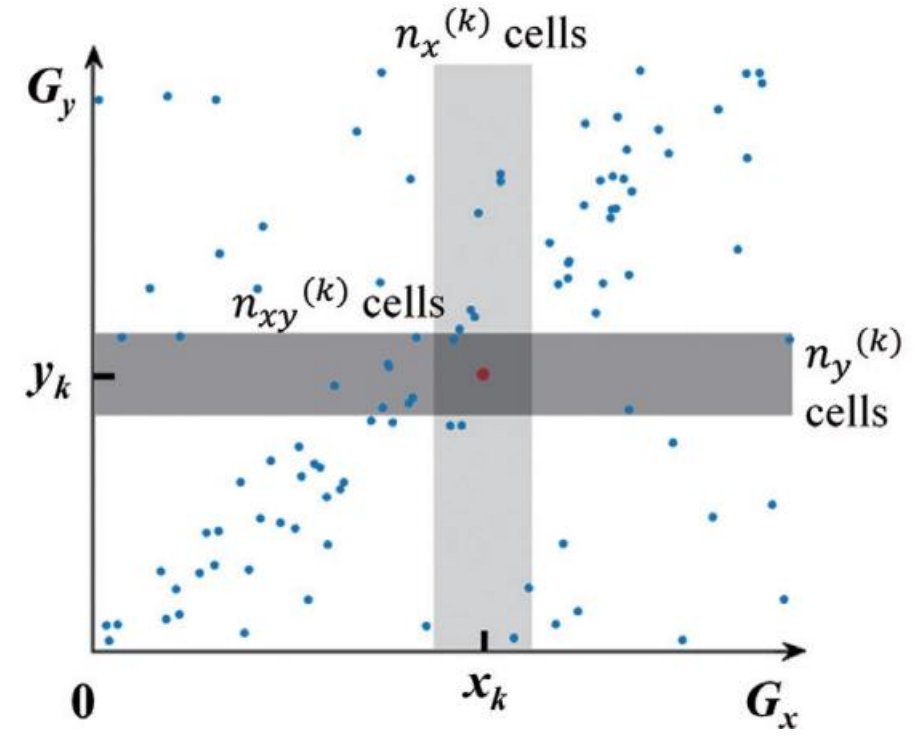
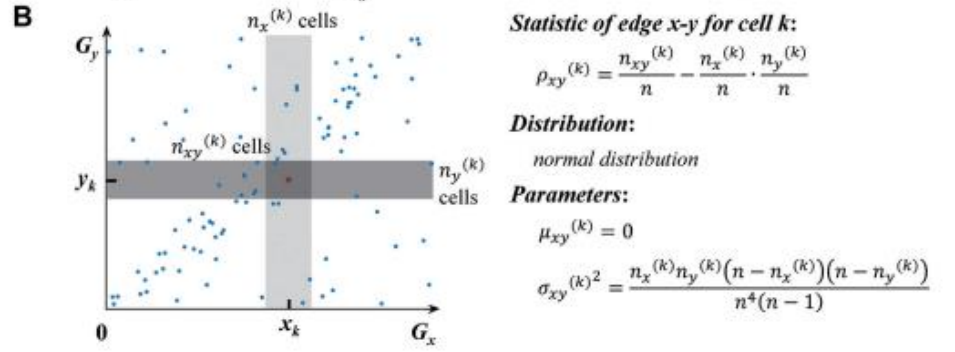
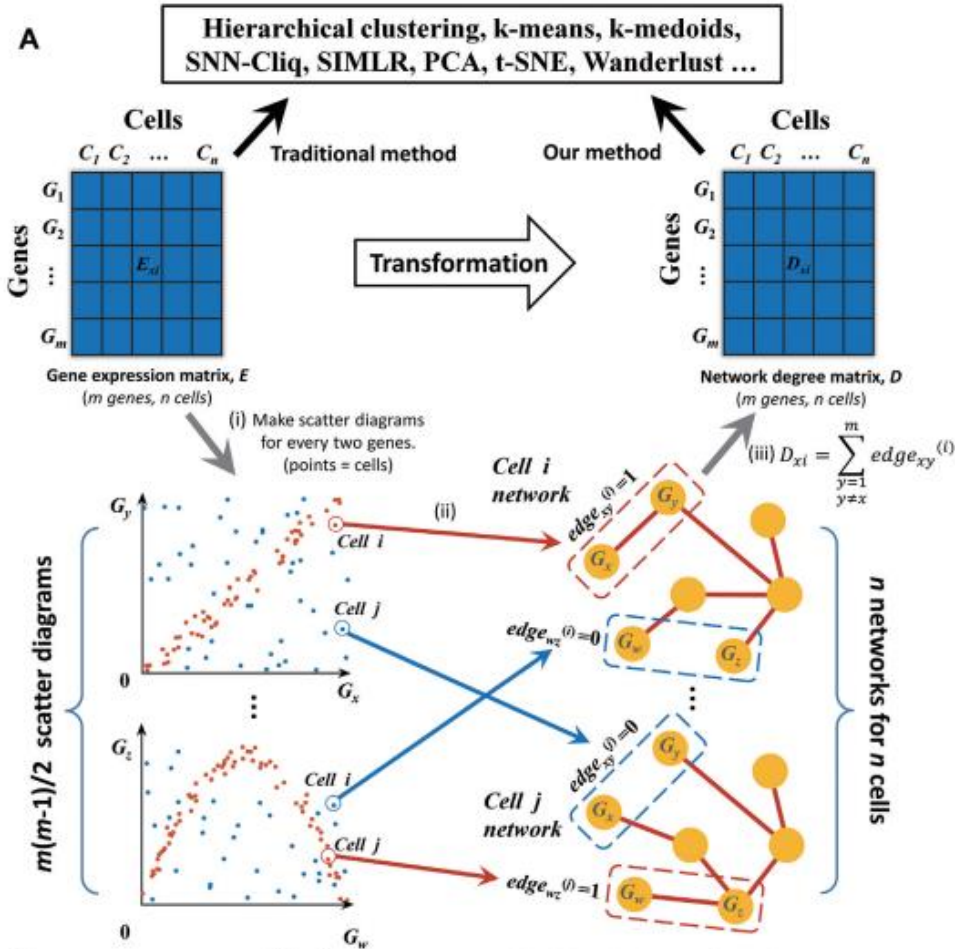
- Time-intensive: the calculation is  $O(p^2)$  with  $p$  number of nodes-
- Based on the assumptions that the individual-specific edges, on average, represent the aggregate network.
- Not limited from Pearson correlation – it can work with every association mechanism



# Cell specific network – CSN :



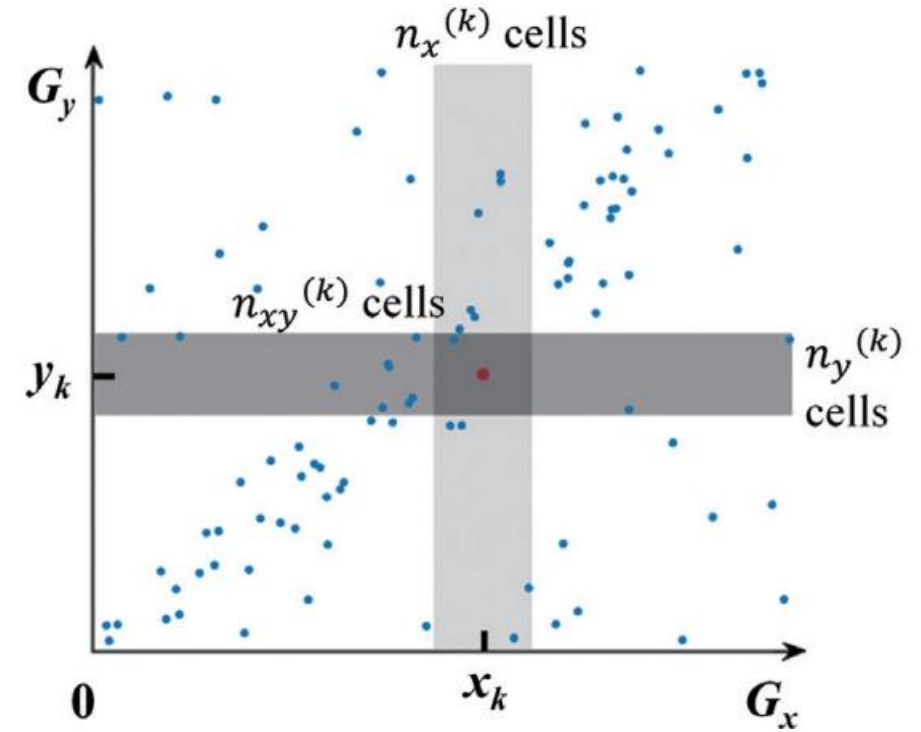
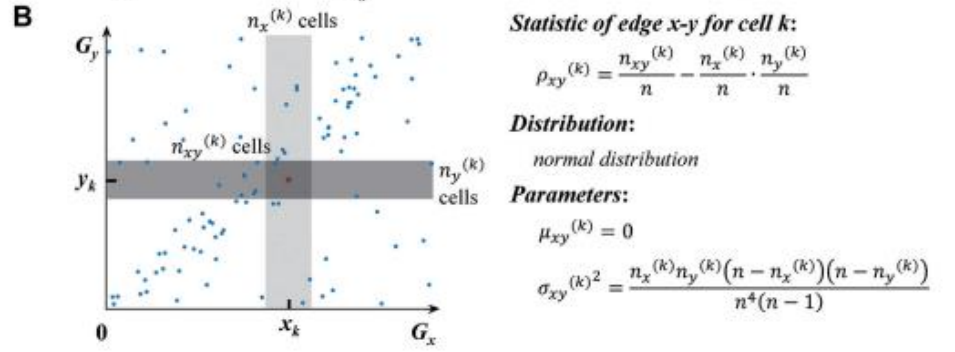
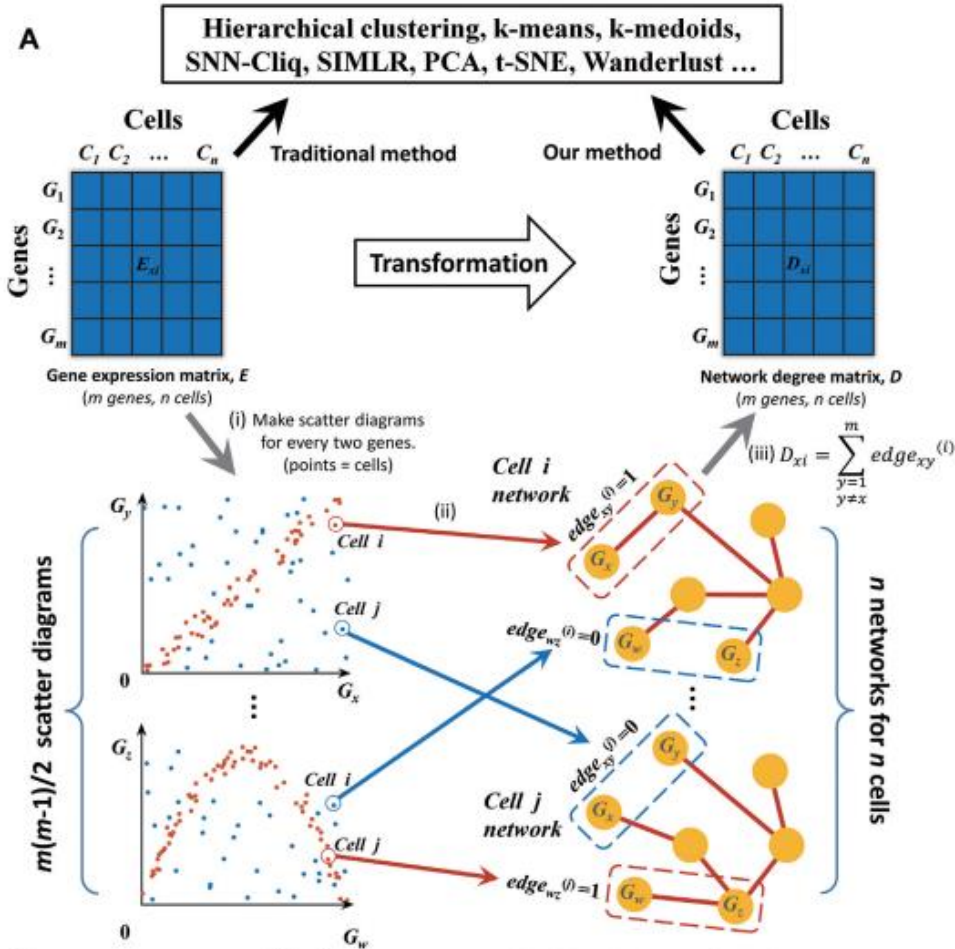
# Cell specific network – CSN :



(Dai et al., 2019)



# Cell specific network – CSN :



Statistic of edge  $x$ - $y$  for cell  $k$ :

$$\rho_{xy}^{(k)} = \frac{n_{xy}^{(k)}}{n} - \frac{n_x^{(k)}}{n} \cdot \frac{n_y^{(k)}}{n}$$

Distribution:

normal distribution

Parameters:

$$\mu_{xy}^{(k)} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{xy}^{(k)2} = \frac{n_x^{(k)}n_y^{(k)}(n - n_x^{(k)})(n - n_y^{(k)})}{n^4(n - 1)}$$



## Cell specific network – (C)CSN :

(Li et al., 2021)

### 1 How

- Starting from the single cell(sample) value for a gene pair  $(x, y)$ , we depict a 10% **UNIVARIATE** interval of all samples and compute how many obs are into the intersection  $n_{xy}$ .
- If  $n_{xy}/n = n_x/n * n_y/n$  , i.e. does not refuse independence hypothesis: no edge, if it is up or down regulated
- If p-value < 1%: edge
- Build a **binary** network

### 2 Caveats

- No reference network
- Density-based

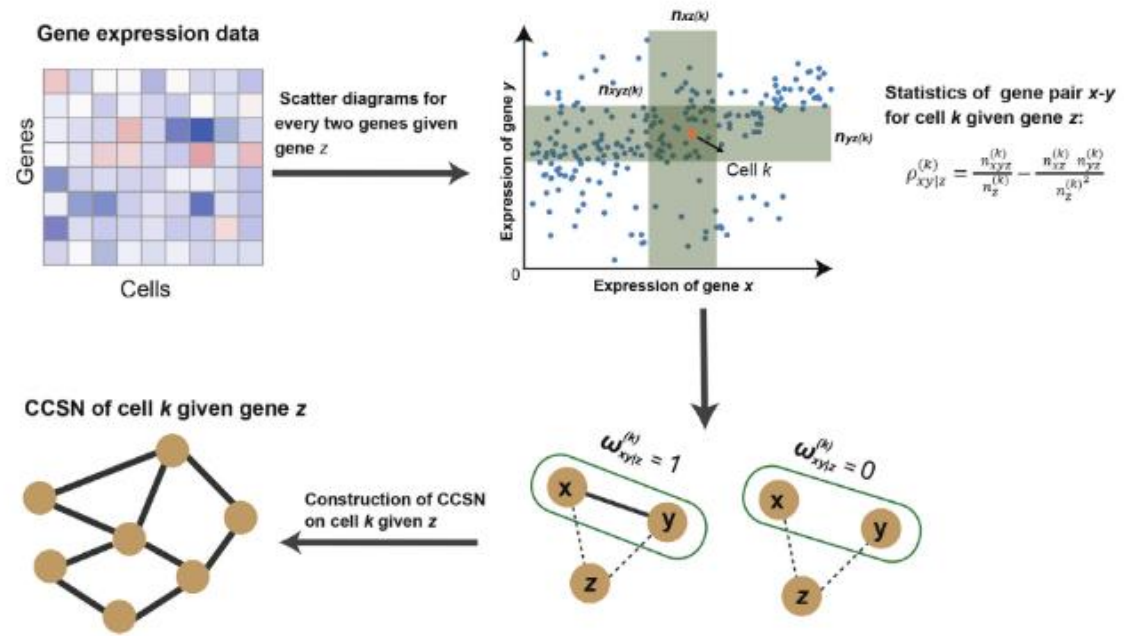
# Cell specific network – CCSN :

Individual network

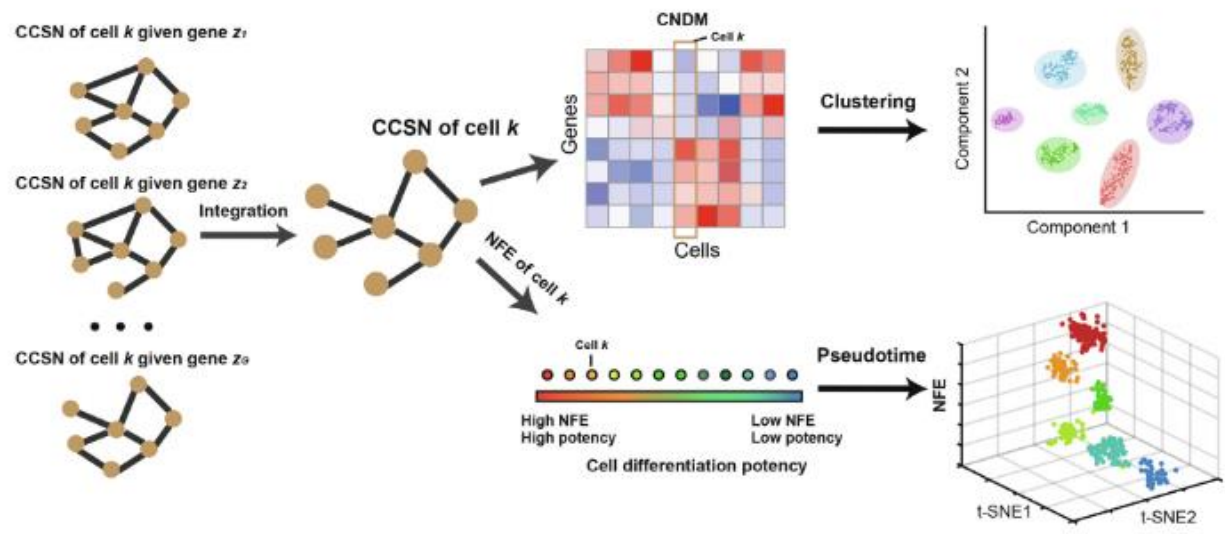


(Li et al., 2021)

A



B





## Cell specific network – CCSN: formula

(Li et al., 2021)

- For a sample (cell), the statistic is

$$p_{x,y|z} = \frac{n_{xyz}}{n} - \frac{n_{xz}n_{yz}}{n^2}$$

- Representing the probability (with the 10% threshold) of having values  $x,y,z$  of genes  $X, Y, Z$
- Difference from this observed probability to the ones if  $X$  and  $Y$  were independent
- Normalization with expected value and standard deviation:

$$\mu_{xy|z} = 0 \quad \sigma_{xy|z} = \sqrt{\frac{n_{xz}n_{yz}(n_z - n_{xz})(n_z - n_{yz})}{n_z(n_z - 1)}}$$

- Normalized statistic:

$$\hat{p}_{xy|z} = \frac{p_{x,y|z} - \mu_{xy|z}}{\sigma_{xy|z}}$$





## Cell specific network – CCSN: pipeline

(Li et al., 2021)

- For a sample (cell), 1<sup>st</sup> construct a CSN without conditional genes: the edge between gene  $x$  and  $y$  are determined with CSN:

$$edge_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{genes } x \text{ and } y \text{ are dependent} \\ 0 & \text{genes } x \text{ and } y \text{ are independent} \end{cases}$$

- We calculate the node degree as the importance of the node

$$D_z = \sum_{y=1, y \neq z}^M edge_{zy}$$

- Top  $G$  largest importance genes as the conditional genes
- Calculate CCSN based on the conditional gene set:
- Hence, we have  $G$  CCSN for each sample
- Merge those into the final CCSN

$$\{z_g, g = 1, 2, 3, \dots, G\} \rightarrow \{C_{z1}, \dots, C_{zG}\}$$

$$\bar{C}_k = \frac{1}{G} \sum_{g=1}^G C_{zg}$$



## Cell specific network – CCSN :

(Li et al., 2021)

### 1 How

- Same structure as CSN – but added conditionality.
- Iterative procedure of estimating CSN – finding the driving nodes – and use those for CCSN
- Parameters: width of the univariate interval for samples; cut-off to determine which are the driving nodes, threshold for significance.

### 2 Caveats

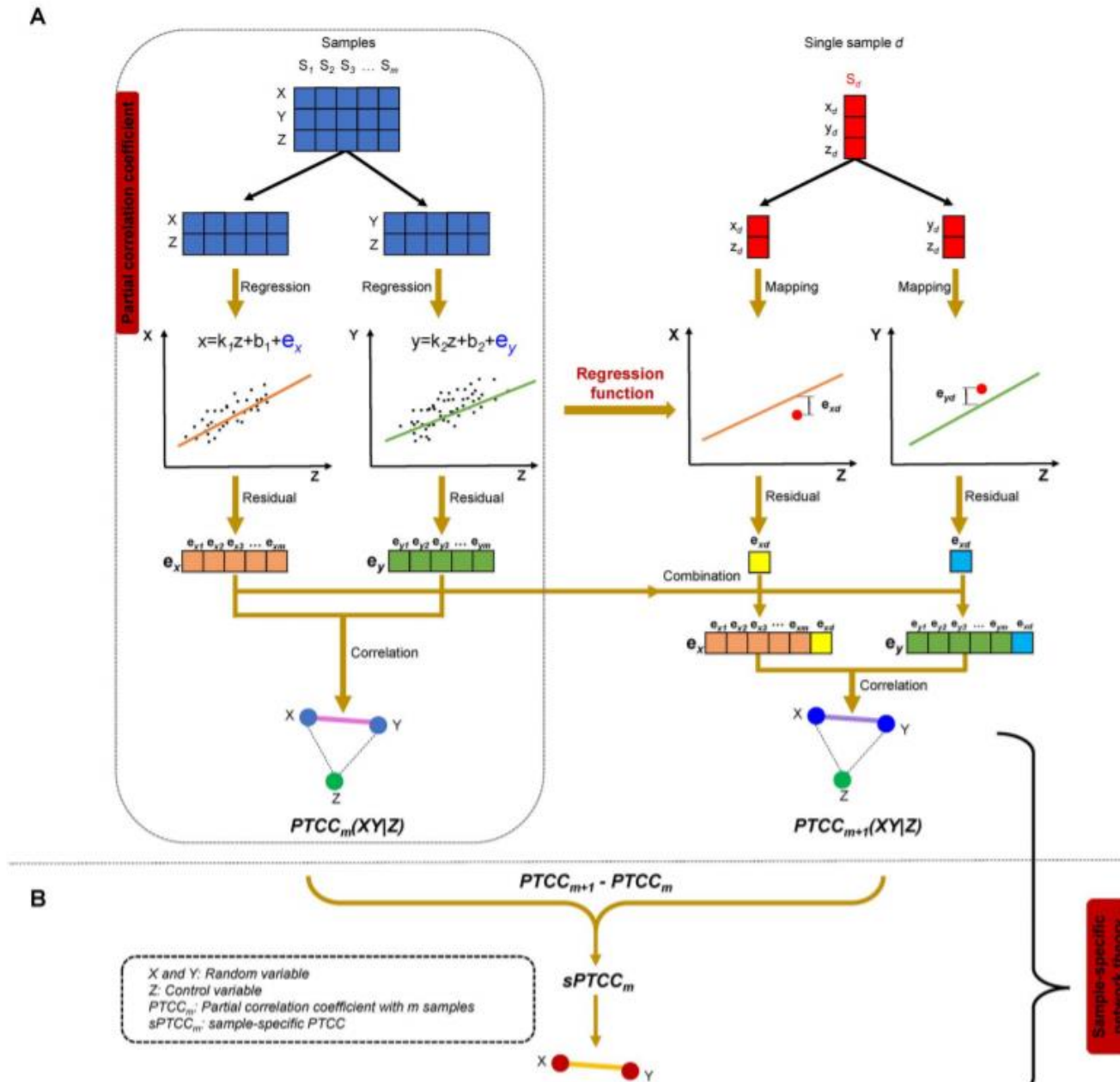
- Parameter-dependent: questionable stability
- Used in single-cells
- 2-step procedure

# Partial network P-SSN

Individual network



(Huang et al., 2021)





## Partial network P-SSN

(Huang Y et al. 2021)

### 1 How

- Partial correlation ( on PCC) with considering a variable Z
- After creating a background network with controls, for a pair X and Y, Z is considered "confounder" and to take into account if its correlation with both X and Y is  $> 0.7$
- Gene pairs retained in the global network are the X,Y that have significant p-value (with a T-test, 0.01) with ALL possible variable Z that satisfy the condition before.
- Then, a sample is added and the sPTCC is calculated.
- Using Liu et al., significant sPTCC (p-value  $< 0.05$ ) with ALL possible Z confounders

# Partial network P-SSN

Individual  
network



(Huang Y et al. 2021)

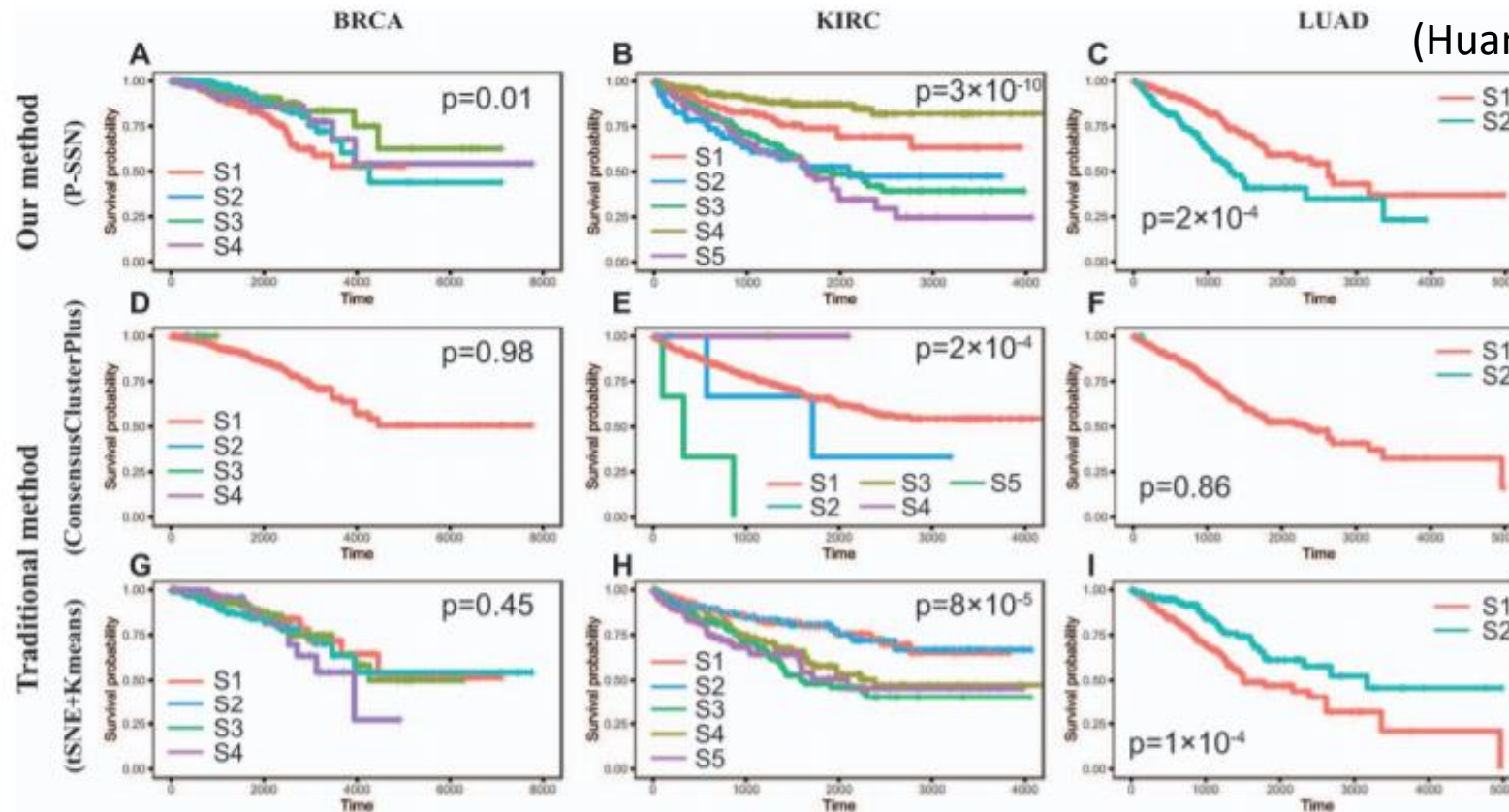
## 2 Caveats

- Based on Pearson correlation
- Perturbation network: does not reconstruct full network
- Parameters: 0.7 for “high correlation”; threshold for T-test p-value
- Using regression’s residuals



# Partial network P-SSN

(Huang Y et al. 2021)



**J**

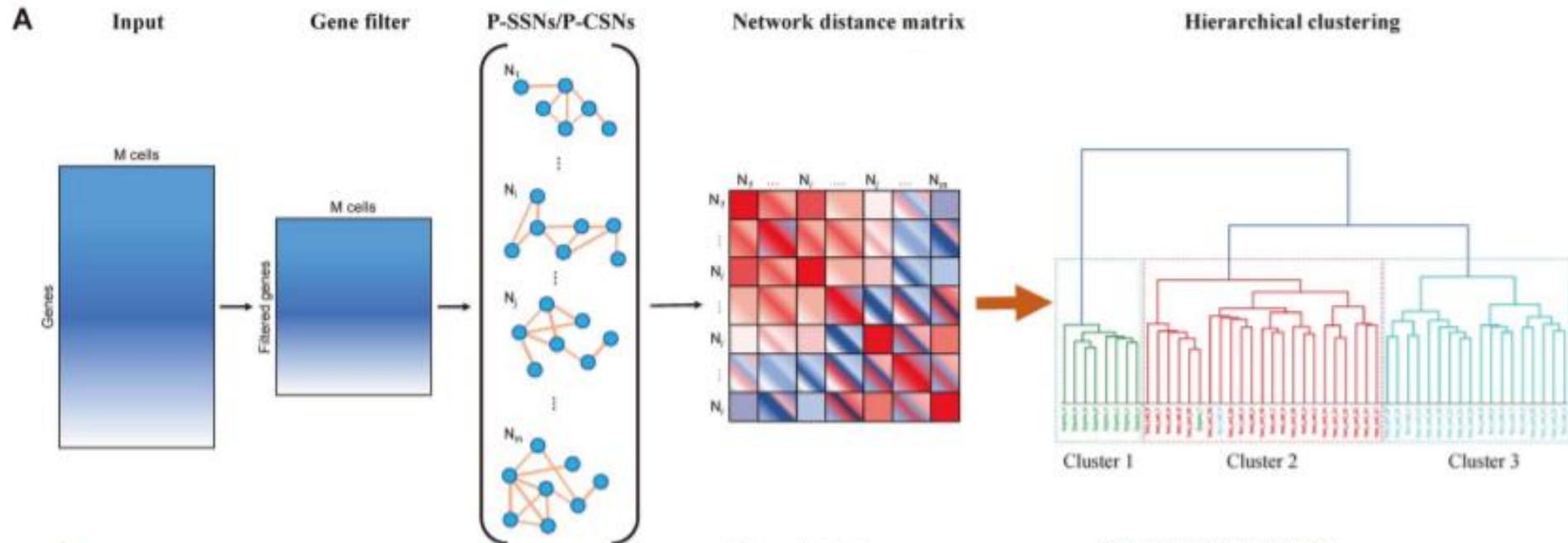
Cancer	Network	Euclidean	Cosine	Correlation	Braycurtis	Canberra	Chebyshev	Kulsinski	Sqeclidean	Jaccard
BRCA	<b>0.01</b>	0.93	0.96	0.98	0.03	0.04	0.7	0.013	0.75	0.92
KIRC	<b><math>3 \times 10^{-10}</math></b>	0.012	$1 \times 10^{-8}$	$2 \times 10^{-6}$	$4 \times 10^{-10}$	$2 \times 10^{-9}$	0.012	0.08	0.72	0.23
LUAD	<b><math>2 \times 10^{-4}</math></b>	0.013	0.002	0.001	0.56	0.03	0.013	0.01	0.07	0.78

**Figure 4.** The survival curves for subtyping three cancers. (A) P-SSN method for BRCA. (B) P-SSN method for KIRC. (C) P-SSN method for LUAD. (D) ConsensusClusterPlus for BRCA. (E) ConsensusClusterPlus for KIRC. (F) ConsensusClusterPlus for LUAD. (G) tSNE + Kmeans for BRCA. (H) tSNE + Kmeans for KIRC. (I) tSNE + Kmeans for LUAD. (J) Comparison between network distance and other nine traditional distances in the subtype identification for BRCA, KIRC and LUAD. The figure showed the log-rank P-value of survival analysis for the subtypes of three tumors, and the subtypes were obtained by hierarchical clustering algorithm based on different distances. The bold values were the best results in every row.



# Partial network P-SSN

(Huang Y et al. 2021)



**B**

Clustering	Log-rank P-value		
	LUAD	KIRC	BRCA
<b>P-SSN</b>	<b><math>2 \times 10^{-4}</math></b>	<b><math>3 \times 10^{-11}</math></b>	<b>0.01</b>
ConsensusClusterPlus	0.86	0.0002	0.98
tSNE+Kmeans	0.0001	0.00008	0.45

**C**

Standard	Adjusted random index (ARI)					
	P-CSN	SEURAT	SNN-Cliq	SINCERA	tSNE+Kmeans	pcaReduce
Basie	<b>0.87</b>	0.00	0.62	0.29	0.13	0.59
Yan	<b>0.86</b>	0.00	0.52	0.35	0.54	0.68
Goolam	<b>0.43</b>	0.03	0.17	0.25	0.52	0.43
Deng	<b>0.51</b>	0.42	0.35	0.43	0.46	0.45
Ting	<b>0.72</b>	0.05	0.39	0.32	0.65	0.39
Treutlein	<b>0.32</b>	0.00	0.23	0.28	0.20	0.31
Pollen	<b>0.89</b>	0.69	0.43	0.53	0.65	0.48
Kim	<b>0.61</b>	0.02	0.58	0.78	0.37	0.20

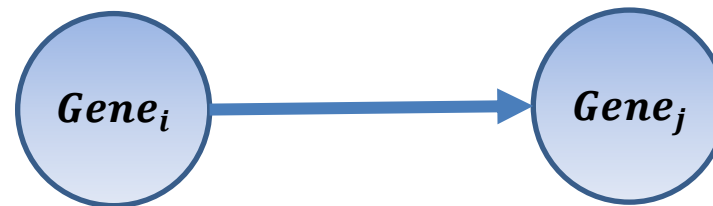
**Figure 6.** The P-SSN/P-CSN clustering based on network distance. (A) The framework of P-SSN/P-CSN clustering based on network distance. (B) The comparison between P-SSN clustering, ConsensusClusterPlus, and tSNE + Kmeans in subtypes identification for LUAD, KIRC and BRCA, evaluated by the log-rank P-value of survival analysis. (C) The comparison between P-CSN and SEURATE, SNN-Clip, SINCERA, tSNE+kmeans, pcaReduce in clustering of scRNA-seq data, evaluated by ARI.



## Direct network

### Interpretation

- Directed edges originate from causal mechanism

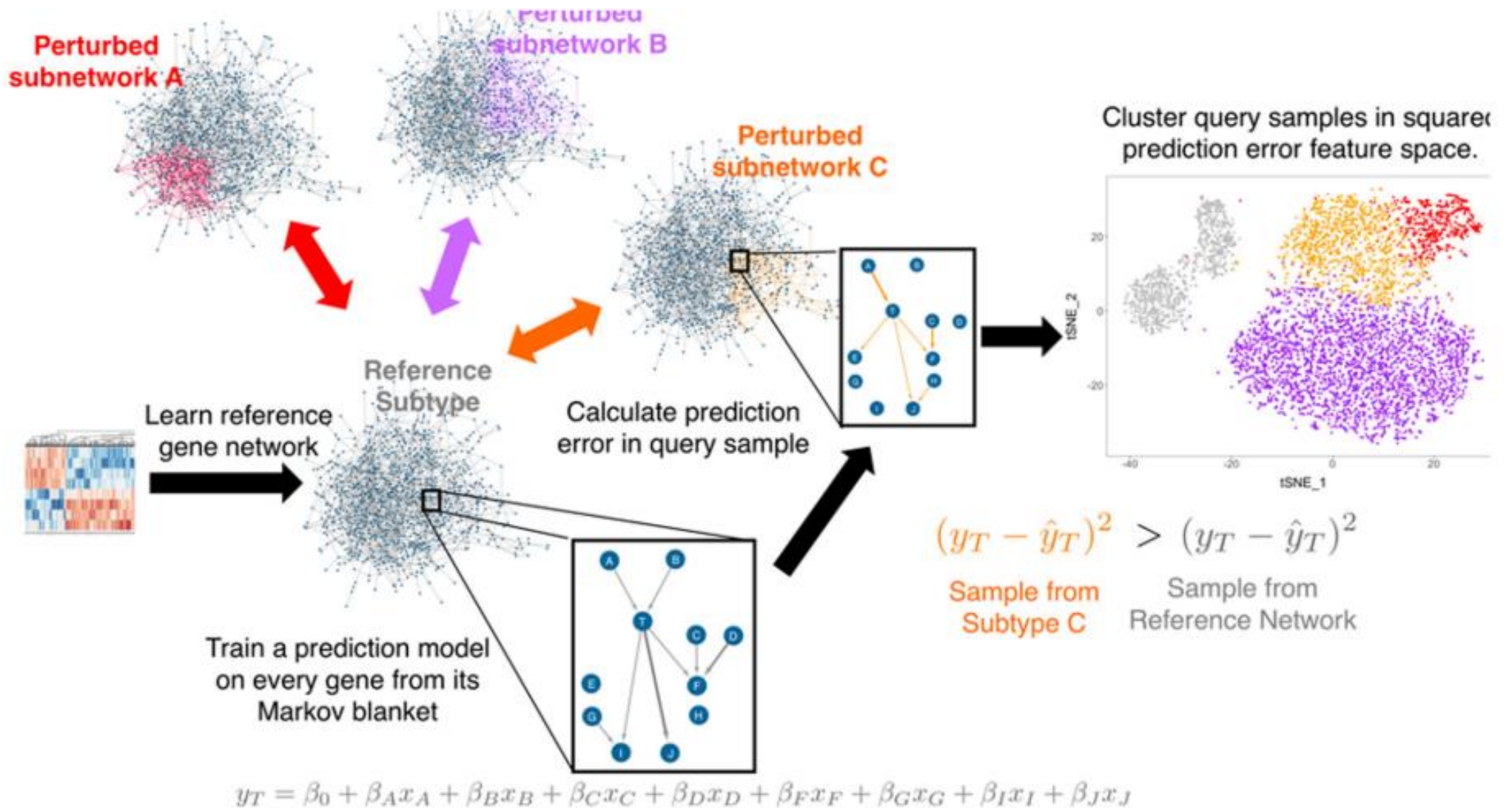






# Direct network: ssNPA

(Buschur KL et al. 2020)





## Direct network: ssNPA

(Buschur KL et al. 2020)

### 1 How

- Build a reference network with control only
- Add a case sample

ssNPA build a predictive model for every gene based on the Markov blanket

- Applied to a new sgene, for a case, produce a prediction
- Residuals predicted – real value = residuals, one for each gene
- Residuals used to
  - Cluster samples (genes into groups)
  - Assess group characteristic
  - Assign individual patient into a disease subgroup

# Direct networks ssNPA

Individual  
network



(Buschur KL et al. 2020)

## 2 Caveats

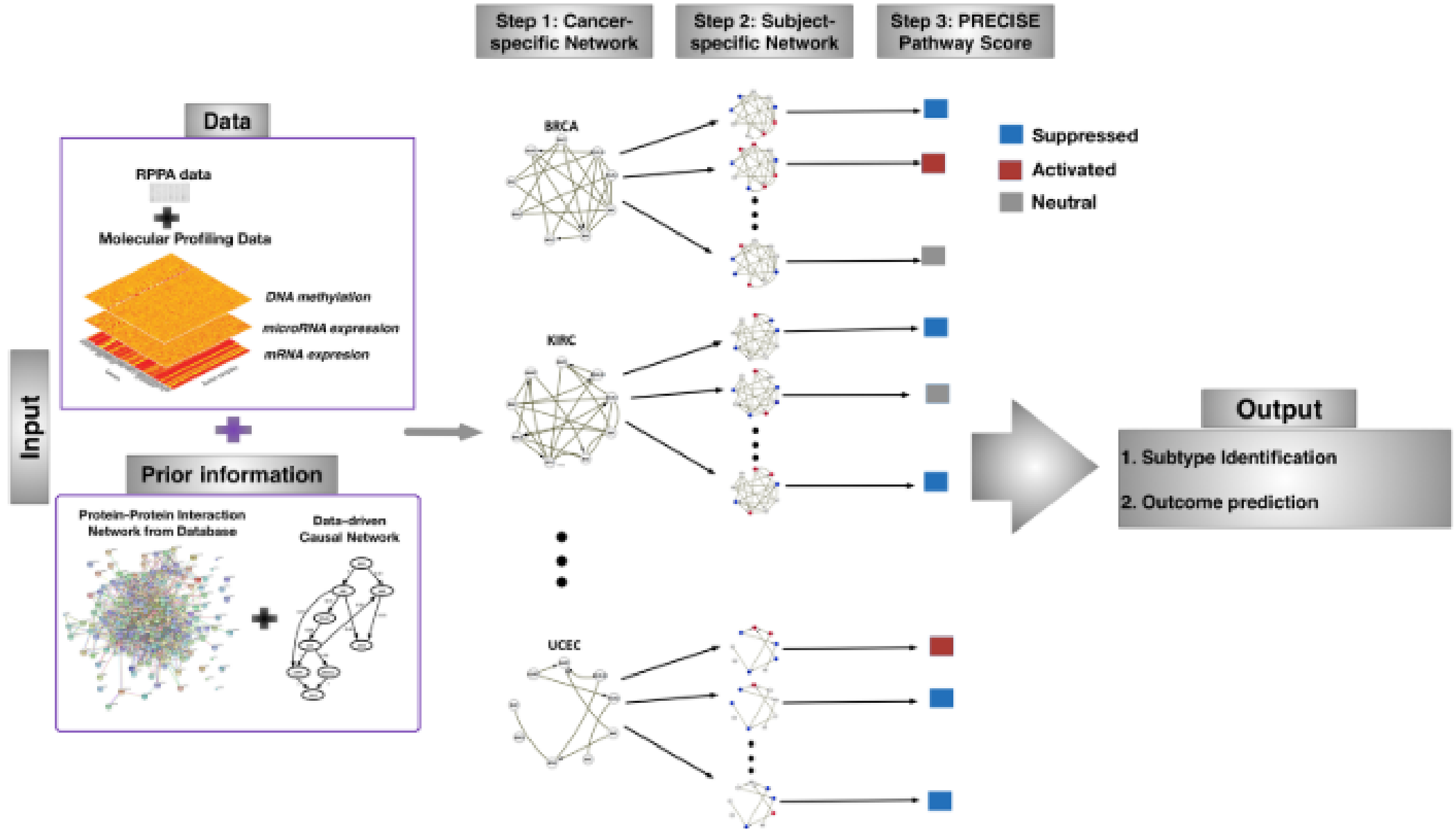
- Not an ISN, create a global network
- Residual-based
- Directed network
- Use of a Markov blanket

# Directed networks PRECISE

Individual network



(Ha et al., 2018)





(Ha et al., 2018)

## Directed networks PRECISE

### 1 How

- PPI causal network estimated and combined with prior information
- Bayesian estimation of integrated cancer-specific networks
- $W_{ij}$  weight for protein  $i \rightarrow j$ , if  $i$  regulator of  $j$ 
  - Decided with prior inclusion information
  - $W_{ij} \neq W_{ji}$

For protein  $i$ , the  $n \times 1$  expression vector  $y_i$  (centered with its mean) is modeled as

$$y_i = \sum_{j \in \text{upa}(i)} \beta_{ij}^{(p)} y_j + \sum_{k=1}^{K_i} \beta_{ik}^{(c)} x_{ik} + \epsilon_i = Z_i \beta_i + \epsilon_i,$$

- Select Posterior probability  $> 0.5$
- PRECISE network: patient specific labels.
- Network structure is fixed, only the label change

# Directed networks PRECISE

**Individual  
network**



(Ha et al., 2018)

## 2 Caveats

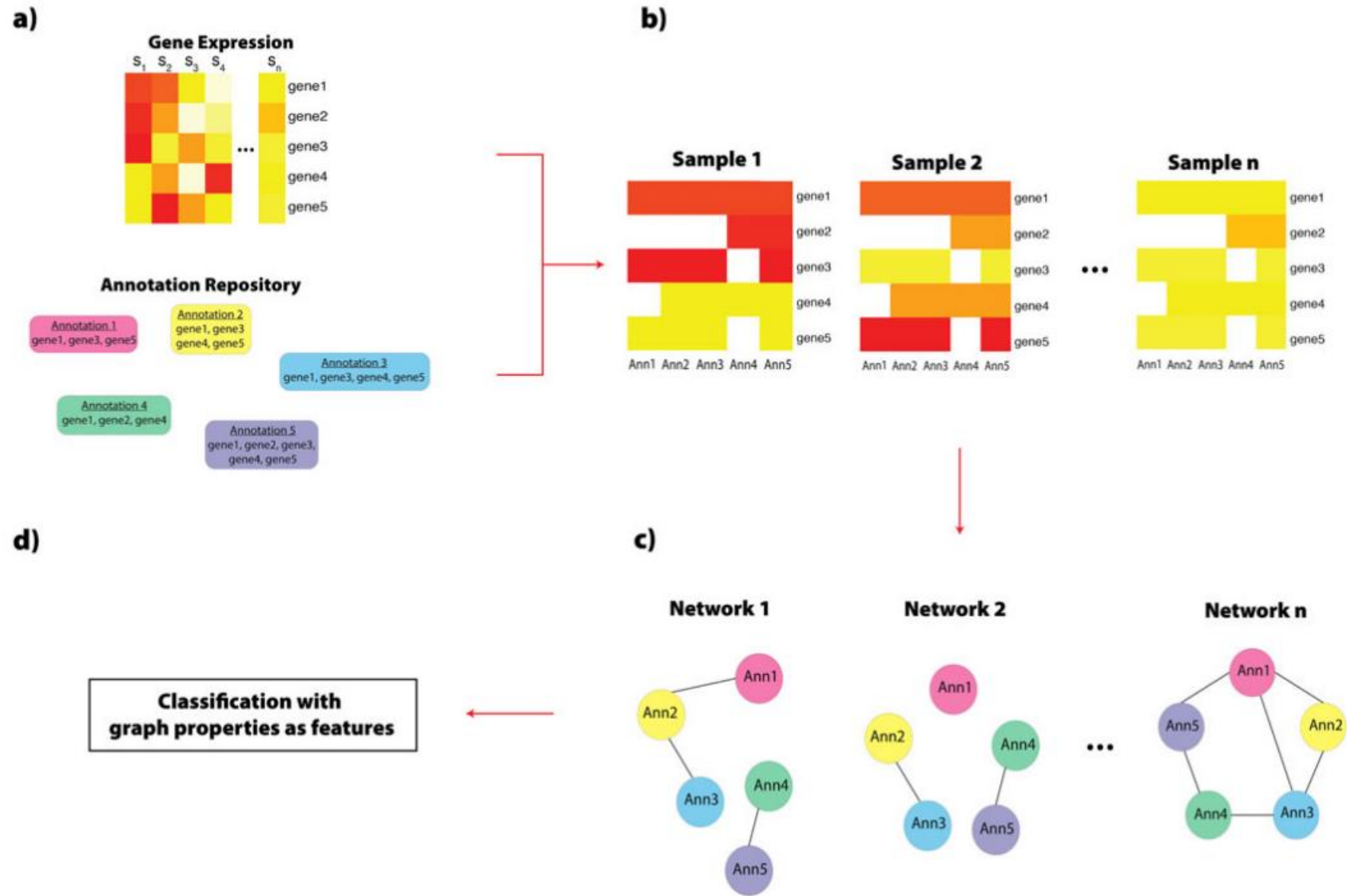
- Individual-specificity on the nodes.
- Directed network
- Personalize label of cancer-specific networks
- Use of a Markov blanket

# Other: PAN Pipeline

Individual network



(Nguyen et al., 2021)





## Other: PAN Pipeline

(Nguyen et al., 2021)

### 1 How

- Use annotations: known biological connections
- Cluster annotations and use similarities as edge: Euclidean distance (0 if same sets of gene); selected top edges (smallest distance)
- Calculate graph statistics: closeness centrality; betweenness centrality; PageRank; Use them to predict Relapse/Non relapse

### 2 Caveats

- Arbitrary choice of «top edges»
- Weak univariate performances
- Heavily dependent on the annotations





## Other: PAN Results

(Nguyen et al., 2021)

TABLE 4

This Table Shows the Maximum Average Cross-Validation AUC Observed for Each Graph-Based Method and Graph Property Studied, Regardless of the Number of Genes or Classifier Model (LR versus SVM) Used

(a) GEO-5 dataset.

Graph property	PAN_KEGG	PAN_DO	PAN_HPO	LIONESS	PPI-based
Betweenness	<b>0.5804</b>	<b>0.6473</b>	0.6306	0.5379	<b>0.6443</b>
Closeness	0.5590	0.6163	<b>0.6418</b>	<b>0.5671</b>	0.6271
Pagerank	0.5572	0.6011	0.6321	0.5428	0.6218

(b) METABRIC1283 dataset.

Graph property	PAN_KEGG	PAN_DO	PAN_HPO	LIONESS	PPI-based
Betweenness	0.6254	0.6208	0.6182	0.5919	<b>0.5596</b>
Closeness	<b>0.6259</b>	<b>0.6262</b>	<b>0.6225</b>	<b>0.6004</b>	0.5566
Pagerank	0.6231	0.6144	0.6144	0.5727	0.5562

(c) UK207 dataset.

Graph property	PAN_KEGG	PAN_DO	PAN_HPO	LIONESS	PPI-based
Betweenness	0.6692	0.6496	0.6507	<b>0.6504</b>	0.6122
Closeness	<b>0.7214</b>	<b>0.6800</b>	<b>0.6832</b>	0.6085	0.6071
Pagerank	0.7061	0.6658	0.6702	0.6240	<b>0.6145</b>

*Best result for each graph-based method is in bold.*

Features:	SSN	LIONESS	CSN	C-CSN	P-SSN	PAN	ssNPA	PRECISE
Nodes	Genes	Genes	Genes / single cell	Genes / single cell	Genes	Annotation	Genes	Genes
Type of network	Perturbation	Completed	NaN	NaN	Perturbed	NaN	Perturbed	Completed
Directionality	Undirected	Undirected	Undirected	Undirected	Undirected	Undirected	Directed	Directed
Confounders ?	No	No	No	Yes, considers the partial correlation to driver genes	Yes, considers the partial correlation to genes associated with both	No	N	Yes, consider external covariate
Reference network	Needed, built with control samples	Not needed	Not needed	Not needed	Needed, built with control samples	Not needed	Yes, control only	No
Individual-specific	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	No IS-edges, only IS-nodes
Parameters	Significance threshold: usually 5%	No parameter: only type of association	Span of univariate interval: 10% Significance threshold: 1-5%	Span of univariate interval: 10% Significance threshold: 1-5%; # top driver genes	0.7 for high correlation gene selection; Significance threshold: 1-5%; Gene pairs significance	#Top edges	PD parameter for FGES	Posterior probability of inclusion = 0.5; Alpha = 0.01 for prior inclusion probability
Type of association	Pearson correlation (PCC)	Wide application: PCC; Panda, MI,..	Density-based	Density-based	Pearson correlation		FGES + Markov blanket	Bayesian estimation
Weighted	Y	Y	Binary	Binary	Y		Y	Y

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## Perspective

- To improve precision medicine, we need to better understand the complex relationships that exist between different nodes (i.e. genes) and nodes' products in individual samples.
- Networks are a natural way to represent these complex interactions
- Methods to infer networks generally “average” over the members of a population.
- Hence, using networks in precision medicine requires methods that allow inference of network models specific to each individual

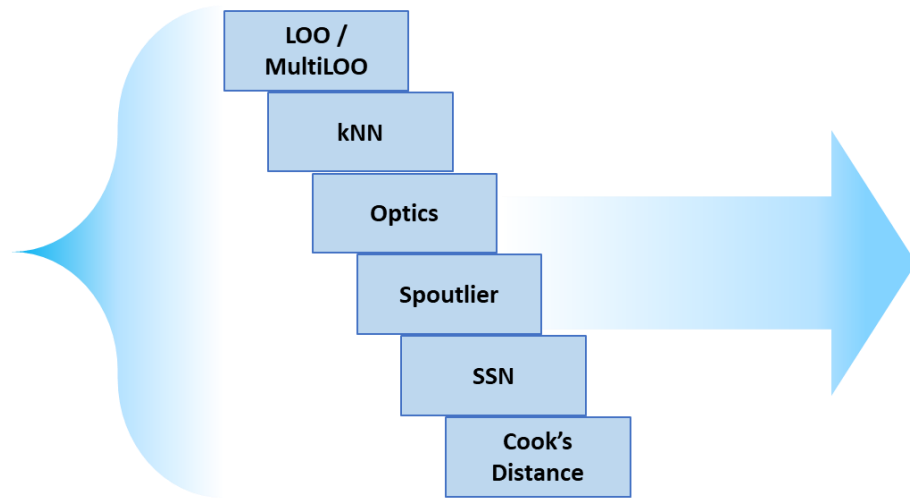
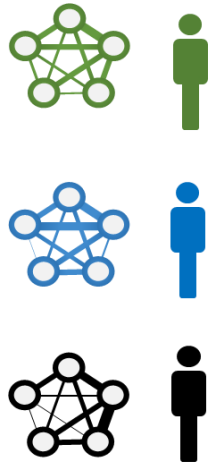
# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

## Perspective

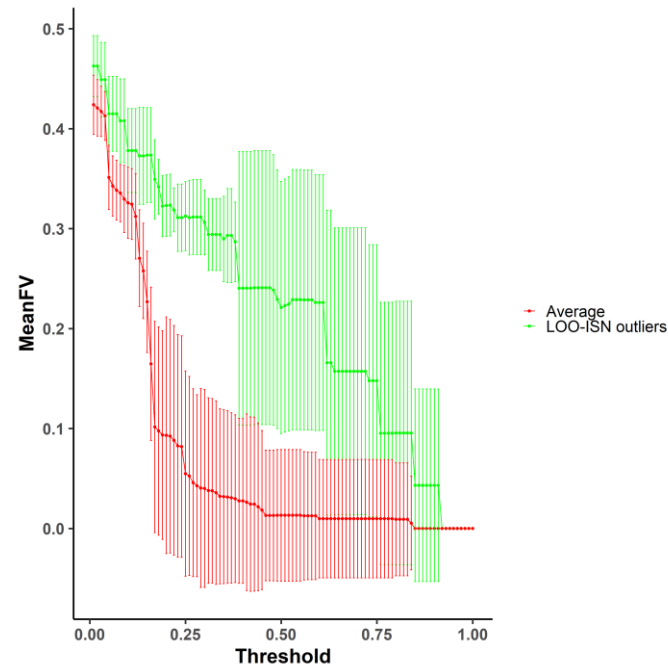
- ISN has been applied consistently results in many fields (transcriptomics, single-cells, microbiome,..) and for many diseases (cancer, covid-19, relapse)
- Applicable both for clustering and prediction tasks
- However, the reported significance assessment has been criticized (Jahagirdar S et al. 2021) for their poor power
- We need for a modular vision to do significance assessment.
  - I.e., consider a module, a set of strongly interacting nodes, to do significance assessment

# Modular significance assessment

Future directions



Rank	Sample	Outlier Score
1	Ind 13	0.71
2	Ind 21	0.62
3	Ind 61	0.45
..		
N	Ind 57	0.04



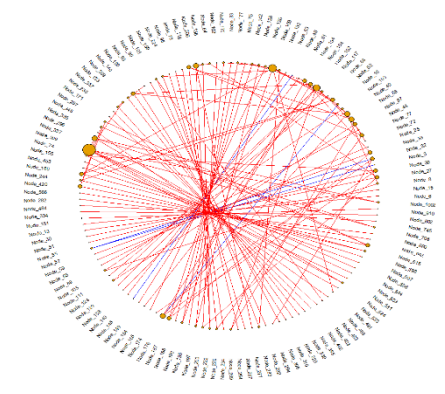
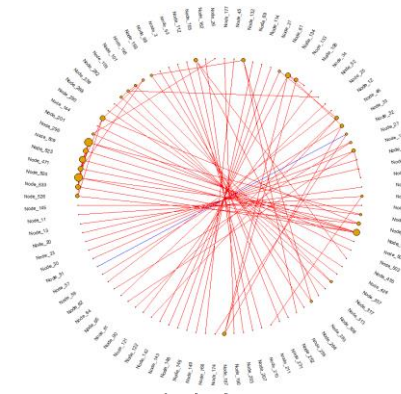
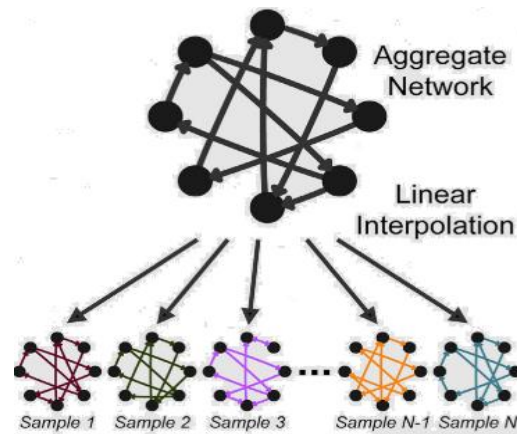
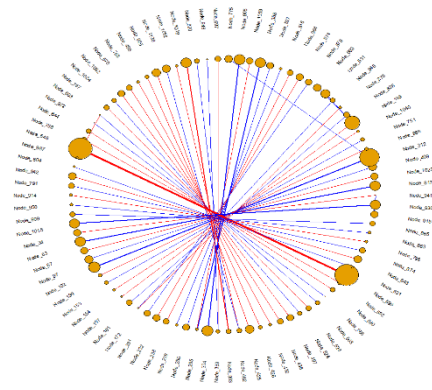


# Conclusions

- ISN is an exciting field that promise to complement current information in network analysis
- It is widely applicable in many situations
- Many more challenges to tackle!

# SUPPLEMENTARY

# PROJECT SUMMARY



Population-level interaction networks

Adapted from Kuijjer et al. ('19)

